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DARK AVENGERS

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OSBORN'S REIGN

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OSBORN'S REIGN

VOL. 1

2009-2010

Avengers created by
Stan Lee and **Jack Kirby**

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The alien race known as the Skrulls recently invaded Earth through a well-planned secret invasion, using their shape-shifting ability to seed mistrust among the Avengers and other heroes around the world.

All looked lost, but the Skrulls' plans quickly unraveled when the mighty Thor summoned both the humans and Skrulls to a battle on the fields of Central Park.

For the first time in years, the original Avengers were united and Nick Fury was back on the battlefield. And for the first time ever, with the help of the super villain the Hood, heroes and villains fought as one.

The turning point came when Norman Osborn, once the villainous Green Goblin and recently the leader of the Thunderbolts, stepped up and made the kill shot that took out the Skrull Queen.

The humans prevailed, barely, over the alien army.

In the aftermath, Tony Stark took the blame for the invasion and was stripped of his roles as leader of the Avengers and director of a now defunct S.H.I.E.L.D.

Norman Osborn, rose to power and was appointed to replace Stark.

Secretly, Norman has been meeting with some of the most malevolent figures in the world today, including Latverian dictator Doctor Doom.

DARK AVENGERS #1

THE CASTLE OF MORGANA LE FAY, 690 AD.
WATERS OF AVALON, SHOW ME VICTOR VON DOOM.
SHOW ME WHERE IN TIME MY BETRAYER HAS HIDDEN FROM ME.
VISTUNI MANANA.
VISTUNI ALAGULNAU.
VISTUNI CROLONU...
THANK YOU FOR MEETING WITH ME.
OKAY.
IT'S A NEW DAY.
SO LISTEN CAREFULLY...
THIS IS HOW IT'S GOING TO BE.

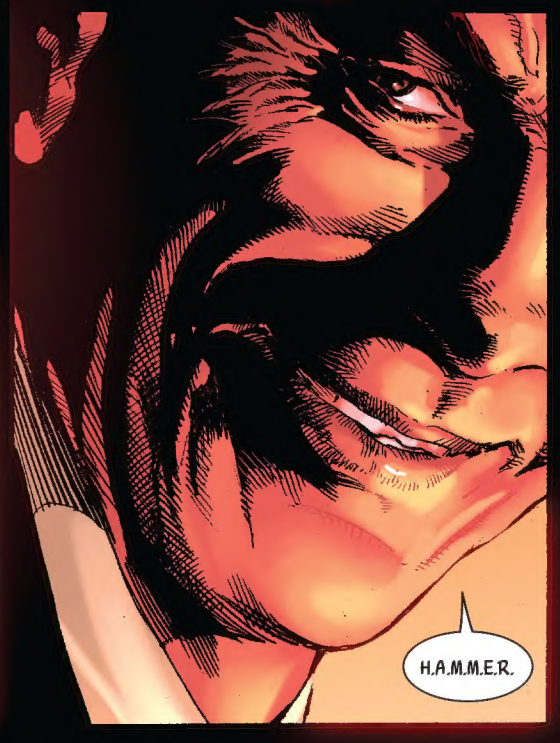
AVENGERS TOWER, TODAY!
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN WATCHING US ALL OVER THE WORLD.
AS WE START OUR HEALING...AS WE START TO UNDERSTAND HOW WE AS A SPECIES HAVE YET AGAIN TRIUMPHED OVER THOSE WHO WOULD TRY TO TAKE AWAY WHAT IS RIGHTFULLY OURS...
IT IS MY HONOR TO INTRODUCE TO YOU...
YOUR PROTECTORS...
YOUR WARRIORS...
YOUR...
AVENGERS!!!
EMBRACE THIS AVENGERS ASSEMBLE

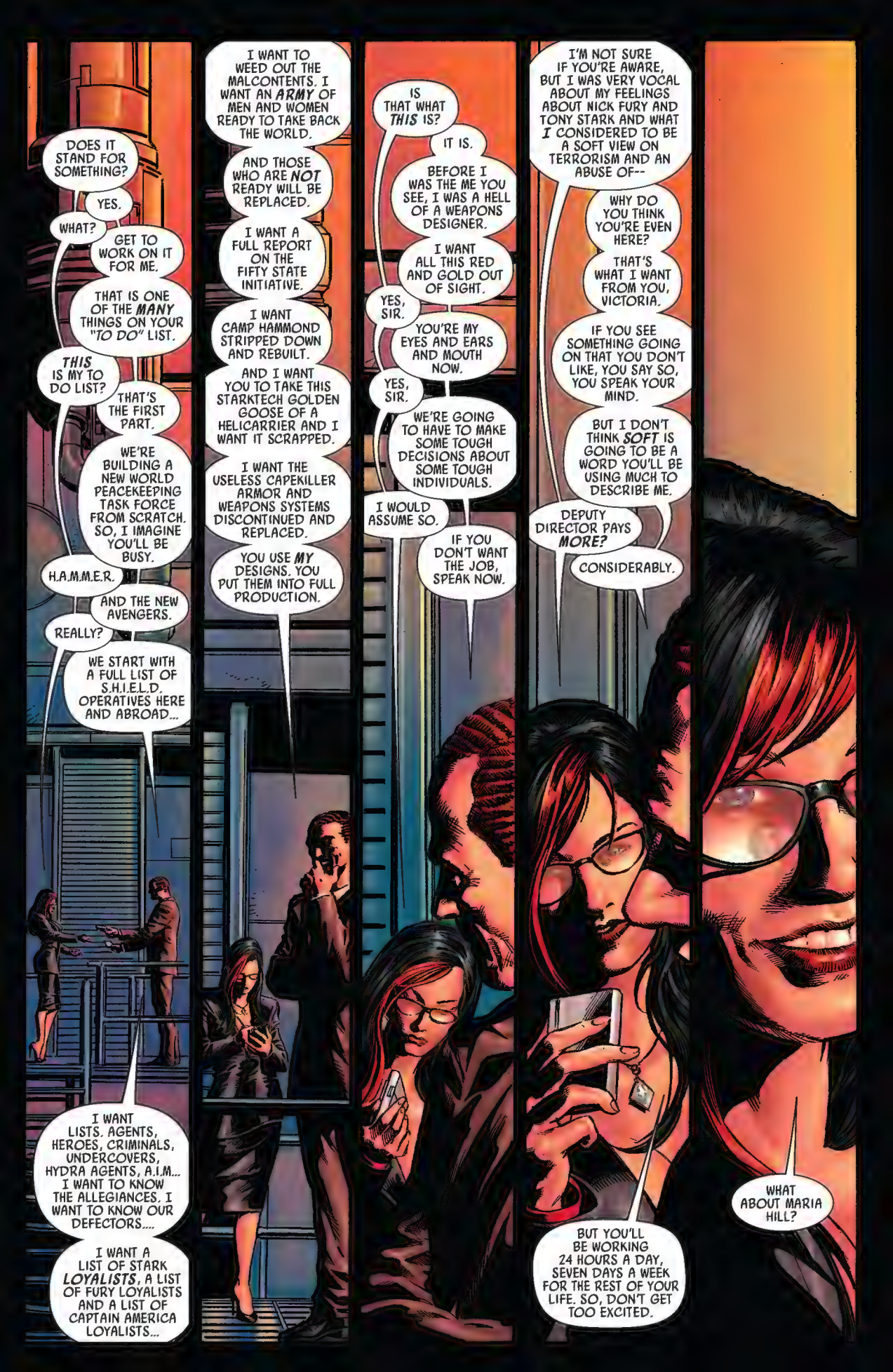
ONE WEEK AGO.

MISTER OSBORN...

I'M VICTORIA HAND.
MISS HAND.
I WAS-- WELL, I WAS VERY SURPRISED TO GET YOUR CALL, SIR.

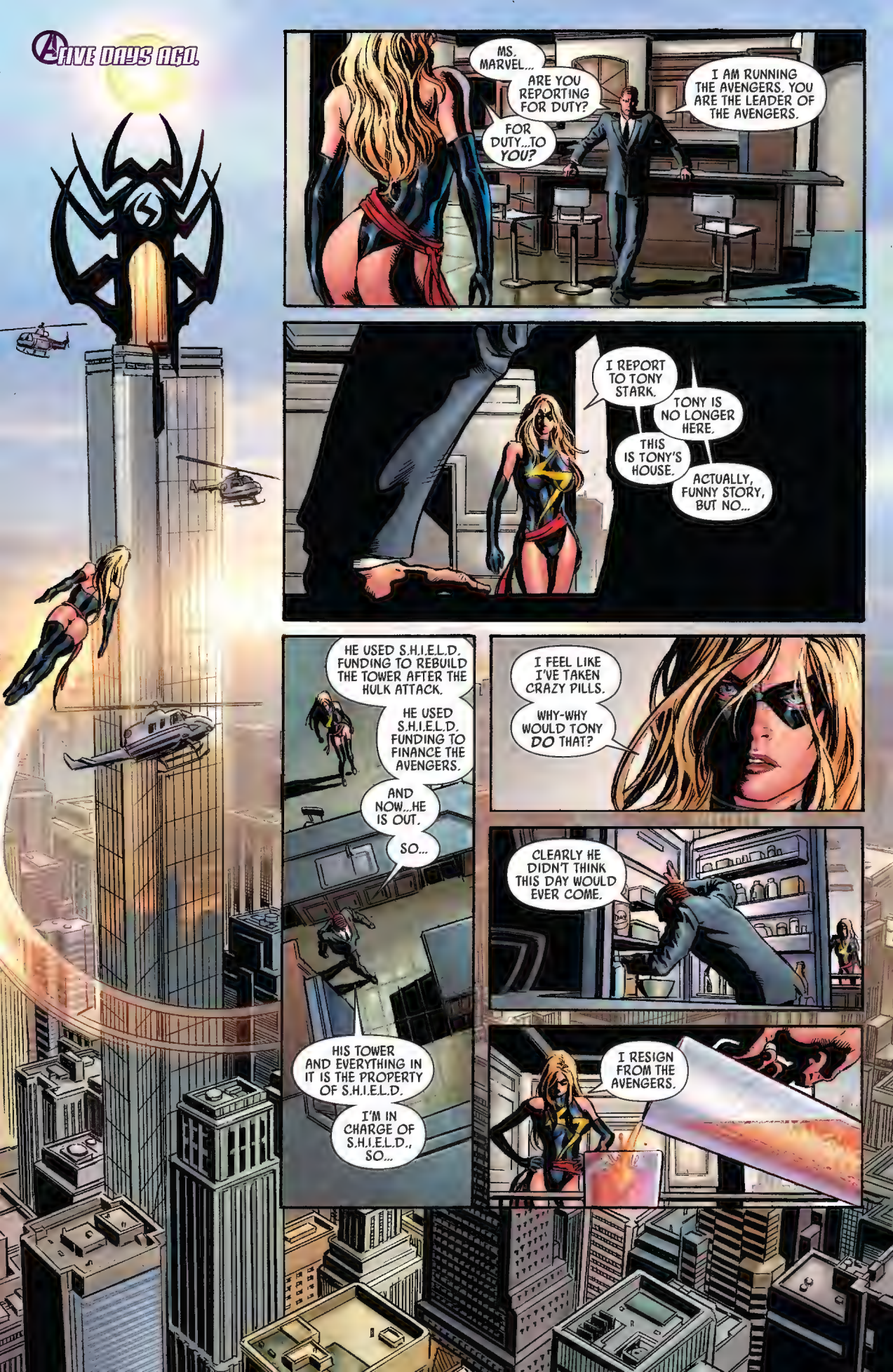
I THOUGHT WHEN S.H.I.E.L.D. WENT AWAY, SO DID MY JOB.
IT DID.
YOU'RE NO LONGER A S.H.I.E.L.D. ACCOUNTANT.
BUSINESS AFFAIRS OPERATIVE.
YOU'RE MY DEPUTY DIRECTOR.
OF WHAT?


H.A.M.M.E.R.

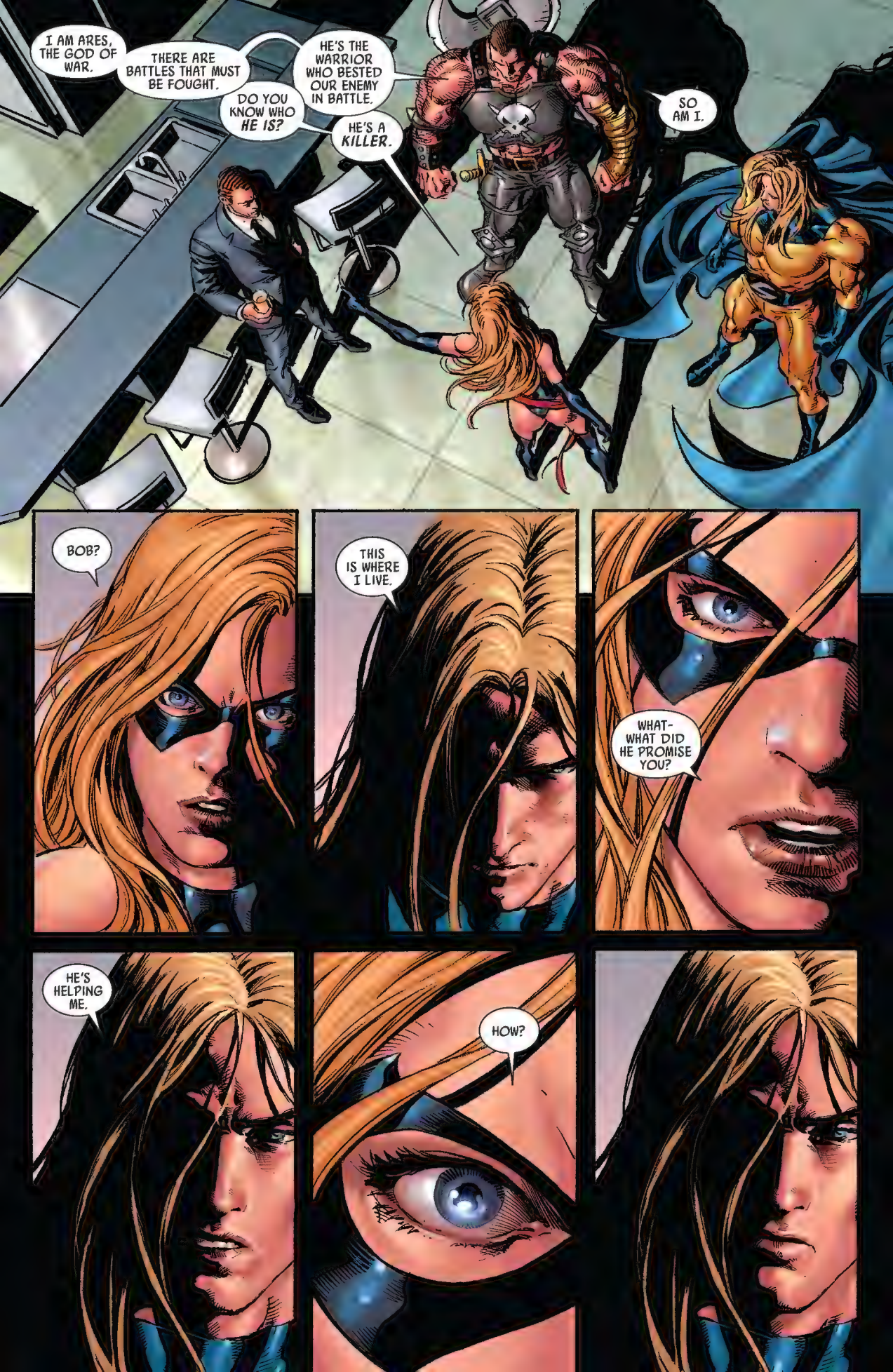

DOES IT STAND FOR SOMETHING?
YES.
WHAT?
GET TO WORK ON IT FOR ME.
THAT IS ONE OF THE MANY THINGS ON YOUR "TO DO" LIST.
THIS IS MY TO DO LIST?
THAT'S THE FIRST PART.
WE'RE BUILDING A NEW WORLD PEACEKEEPING TASK FORCE FROM SCRATCH. SO, I IMAGINE YOU'LL BE BUSY.
H.A.M.M.E.R.
AND THE NEW AVENGERS.
REALLY?
WE START WITH A FULL LIST OF S.H.I.E.L.D. OPERATIVES HERE AND ABROAD...
I WANT LISTS. AGENTS, HEROES, CRIMINALS, UNDERCOVERS, HYDRA AGENTS, A.I.M... I WANT TO KNOW THE ALLEGIANCES. I WANT TO KNOW OUR DEFECTORS....
I WANT A LIST OF STARK LOYALISTS, A LIST OF FURY LOYALISTS AND A LIST OF CAPTAIN AMERICA LOYALISTS...
I WANT TO WEED OUT THE MALCONTENTS. I WANT AN ARMY OF MEN AND WOMEN READY TO TAKE BACK THE WORLD.
AND THOSE WHO ARE NOT READY WILL BE REPLACED.
I WANT A FULL REPORT ON THE FIFTY STATE INITIATIVE.
I WANT CAMP HAMMOND STRIPPED DOWN AND REBUILT.
AND I WANT YOU TO TAKE THIS STARKTECH GOLDEN GOOSE OF A HELICARRIER AND I WANT IT SCRAPPED.
I WANT THE USELESS CAPEKILLER ARMOR AND WEAPONS SYSTEMS DISCONTINUED AND REPLACED.
YOU USE MY DESIGNS. YOU PUT THEM INTO FULL PRODUCTION.
IS THAT WHAT THIS IS?
IT IS.
BEFORE I WAS THE ME YOU SEE, I WAS A HELL OF A WEAPONS DESIGNER.
I WANT ALL THIS RED AND GOLD OUT OF SIGHT.
YES, SIR.
YOU'RE MY EYES AND EARS AND MOUTH NOW.
YES, SIR.
WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO MAKE SOME TOUGH DECISIONS ABOUT SOME TOUGH INDIVIDUALS.
I WOULD ASSUME SO.
IF YOU DON'T WANT THE JOB, SPEAK NOW.
I'M NOT SURE IF YOU'RE AWARE, BUT I WAS VERY VOCAL ABOUT MY FEELINGS ABOUT NICK FURY AND TONY STARK AND WHAT I CONSIDERED TO BE A SOFT VIEW ON TERRORISM AND AN ABUSE OF--
WHY DO YOU THINK YOU'RE EVEN HERE?
THAT'S WHAT I WANT FROM YOU, VICTORIA.
IF YOU SEE SOMETHING GOING ON THAT YOU DON'T LIKE, YOU SAY SO, YOU SPEAK YOUR MIND.
BUT I DON'T THINK SOFT IS GOING TO BE A WORD YOU'LL BE USING MUCH TO DESCRIBE ME.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYS MORE?
CONSIDERABLY.
BUT YOU'LL BE WORKING 24 HOURS A DAY, SEVEN DAYS A WEEK FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE. SO, DON'T GET TOO EXCITED.
WHAT ABOUT MARIA HILL?

DIRECTOR OSBORN, MARIA HILL IS HERE.
THUNDERBOLTS MOUTAIN, COYOTE SPRINGS, COLORADO, BASE OF THE THUNDERBOLTS.
SIX DAYS AGO.
MISS HILL.
MISTER OSBORN.
I'M SORRY YOU HAD TO FLY ALL THE WAY OUT HERE TO HEAR THIS, BUT AS YOU KNOW, S.H.I.E.L.D. IS NO LONGER.
A NEW ORGANIZATION IS BEING ESTABLISHED IN ITS PLACE. I WILL BE RUNNING THE DAY TO DAY ON THAT...
BECAUSE OF YOUR COMPLETE FAILURE TO DETECT THE SKRULL INVASION WITHIN YOUR RANKS.
BECAUSE OF YOUR FAILURE TO DEFEND OUR WORLD AGAINST THE GROUND ASSAULT.
YOUR PRESENCE WILL NO LONGER BE REQUIRED.
I KNOW.
WELL, THEN I'M DOUBLY SORRY YOU HAD TO COME ALL THE WAY OUT HERE.
I'M NOT. I WANTED TO LOOK YOU RIGHT IN THE EYE. I WANTED THIS MOMENT WITH YOU.
I WANTED TO TELL YOU THAT WHEN YOU DO CRASH AND BURN--
--AND... OH YOU WILL--
--I WILL BE THERE WHEN IT HAPPENS.
LAUGHING MY ASS OFF.

WHO'S THE GIRLISH BOY?
HAS-BEEN.
SIT, BULLSEYE. WATER?
VODKA.
NOT ON YOUR MEDS.
TRUE THAT.
YOU DID AMAZING WORK DURING THE GROUND BATTLE.
THAT WAS FUN. TOOK THE EDGE OFF FOR A WHILE, IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.
THE NEW DRUGS ARE WORKING. YOU HELD IT TOGETHER. YOU WERE A WARRIOR.
WHAT'S COMING NEXT FROM YOU HERE? A "SO" OR A "BUT"?
SO...I WANT TO REWARD YOU. I WANT TO EXPAND OUR RELATIONSHIP.
REINVENT IT.
HOW BADLY ARE YOU LOOKING TO SCREW ME, NORMS?
NOT AT ALL.
WE'RE MOVING TO NEW YORK.
WHAT'S IN NEW YORK?
AVENGERS TOWER.


FIVE DAYS AGO.
MS. MARVEL...
ARE YOU REPORTING FOR DUTY?
FOR DUTY...TO YOU?
I AM RUNNING THE AVENGERS. YOU ARE THE LEADER OF THE AVENGERS.
I REPORT TO TONY STARK.
TONY IS NO LONGER HERE.
THIS IS TONY'S HOUSE.
ACTUALLY, FUNNY STORY, BUT NO...
HE USED S.H.I.E.L.D. FUNDING TO REBUILD THE TOWER AFTER THE HULK ATTACK.
HE USED S.H.I.E.L.D. FUNDING TO FINANCE THE AVENGERS.
AND NOW...HE IS OUT.
SO...
HIS TOWER AND EVERYTHING IN IT IS THE PROPERTY OF S.H.I.E.L.D.
I'M IN CHARGE OF S.H.I.E.L.D., SO...
I FEEL LIKE I'VE TAKEN CRAZY PILLS.
WHY-WHY WOULD TONY DO THAT?
CLEARLY HE DIDN'T THINK THIS DAY WOULD EVER COME.
I RESIGN FROM THE AVENGERS.

YOU ARE REGISTERED, YOU ARE MILITARY...
I HAVE THE RIGHT TO ORDER YOU TO TAKE YOUR POSITION, CAPTAIN.
I RESIGN FROM THE AVENGERS.
THEN YOU ARE UNDER ARREST.
NO ONE WORTH A DAMN WILL SIDE WITH YOU, NORMAN.
THERE WILL BE NO AVENGERS.
NONE.
WHAT THE @#$% ARE YOU TWO DOING?

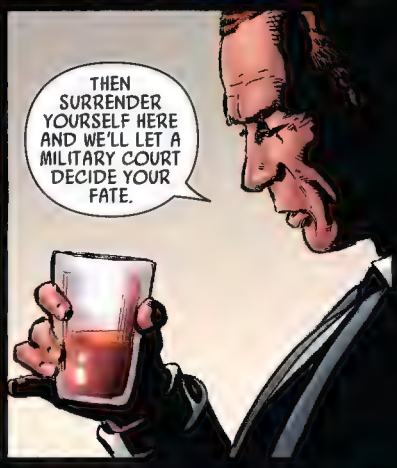

I AM ARES, THE GOD OF WAR.
THERE ARE BATTLES THAT MUST BE FOUGHT.
DO YOU KNOW WHO HE IS?
HE'S THE WARRIOR WHO BESTED OUR ENEMY IN BATTLE.
HE'S A KILLER.
SO AM I.
BOB?
THIS IS WHERE I LIVE.
WHAT- WHAT DID HE PROMISE YOU?
HE'S HELPING ME.
HOW?

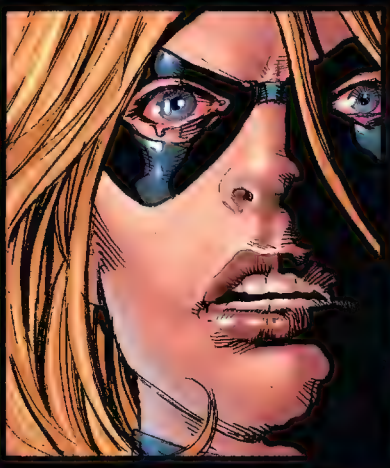
YOU HAVE TO LISTEN TO ME. BOTH OF YOU...
YOU'RE MAKING A HUGE MISTAKE HERE.

I'M TALKING TO THREE LUNATICS.

YOU'RE PUTTING YOUR EGO IN FRONT OF YOUR TASK.

IT'S NOT EGO.
I WON'T DO IT. I WON'T WORK WITH HIM. I WON'T DO IT.

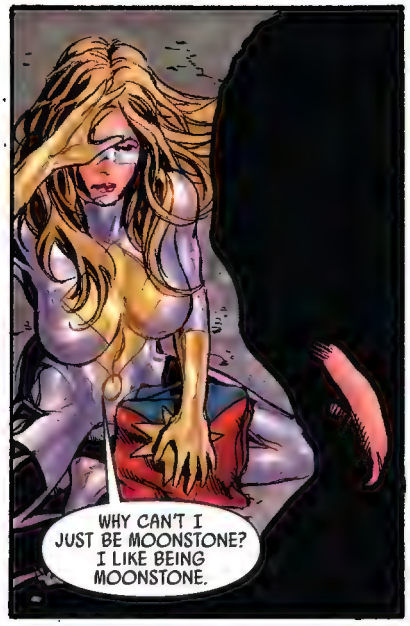

THEN SURRENDER YOURSELF HERE AND WE'LL LET A MILITARY COURT DECIDE YOUR FATE.



WOW, THAT WENT BADLY.
SHOULD I GO AFTER HER?
DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT IT, BOBBY. SHE'LL COME AROUND.

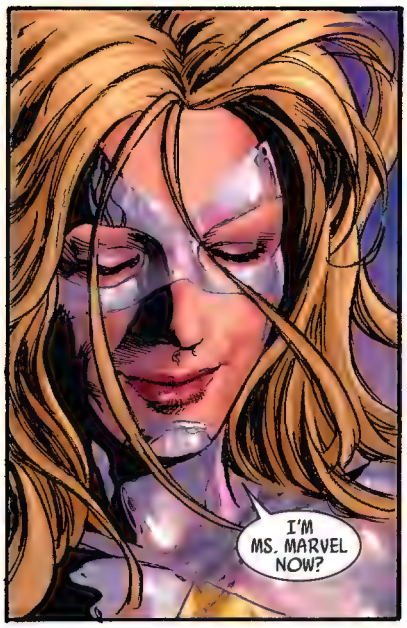
MEANWHILE THERE'S MORE MS. MARVELS WHERE THAT CAME FROM.

THUNDERBOLTS MOUNTAIN.
I'M MEDITATING, OSBORN.
FUMP
PUT IT ON, DOCTOR.
YOU AND YOUR MOONSTONE ARE COMING TO NEW YORK WITH ME.


WHY CAN'T I JUST BE MOONSTONE? I LIKE BEING MOONSTONE.

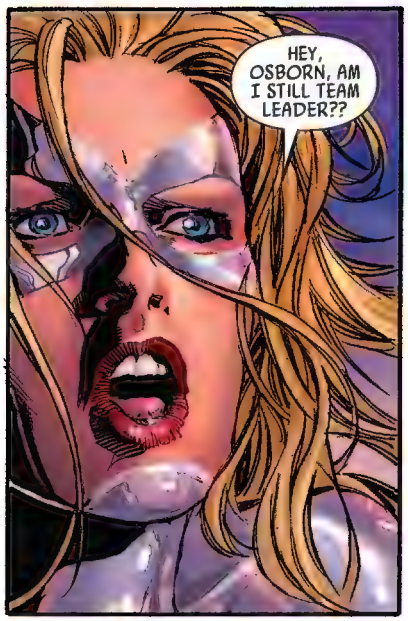
YOU'LL BE MS. MARVEL.
I WANT TO BE MOONSTONE.

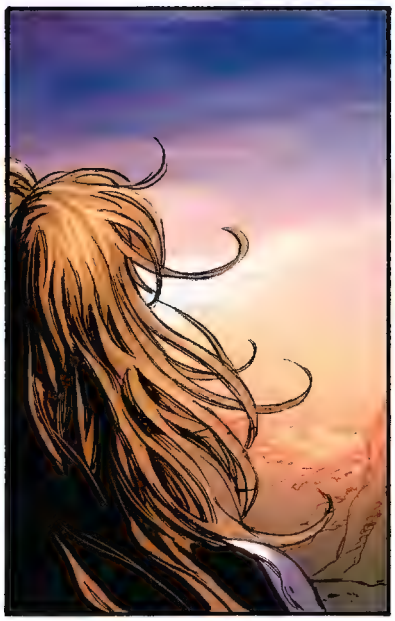
MOONSTONE STAYS HERE IN THE MOUNTAIN UNDER ARMED GUARD.
MS. MARVEL GETS HER OWN PENTHOUSE IN NEW YORK CITY WITH FULL PRIVILEGES.

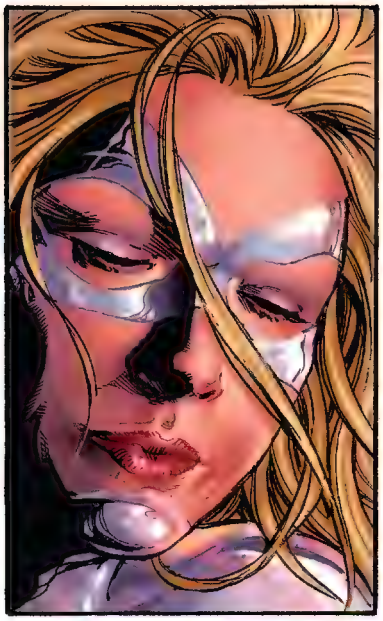

I'M MS. MARVEL NOW?

WELCOME TO THE AVENGERS.

NEVER THOUGHT I'D HEAR THOSE WORDS.


HEY, OSBORN, AM I STILL TEAM LEADER??



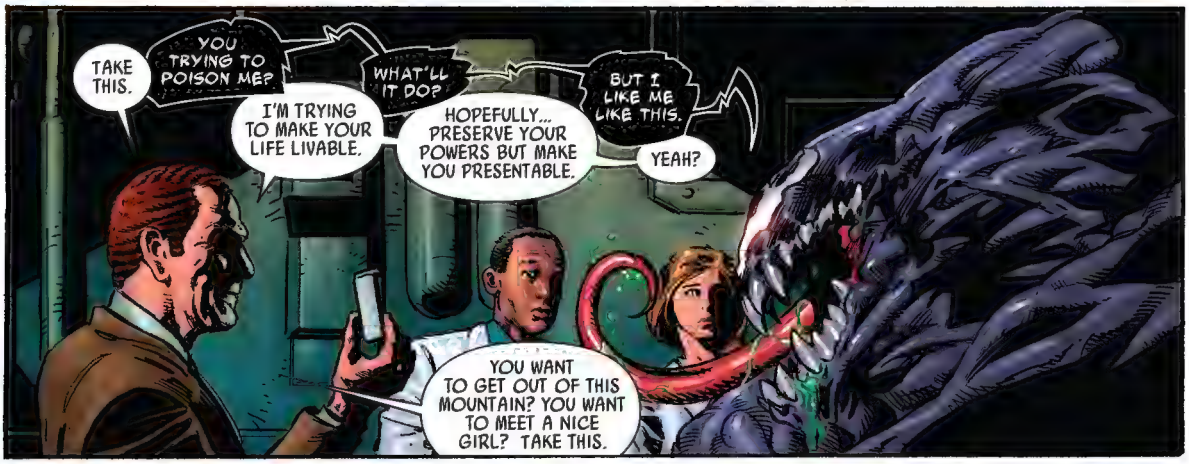


IN YA GO, SKRULL.
CLANG
YOU CAN SHAPE-SHIFT AGAIN, SKRULL.
WHO IS THERE?
AGH!
CLINK
DO YOU KNOW WHO SPIDER-MAN IS?
TURN YOURSELF INTO SPIDER-MAN. SHAPE-SHIFT INTO SPIDER-MAN.
WHY?
BECAUSE I WANT YOU TO.
WHO ARE YOU?
DO IT AND YOU'LL LIVE.

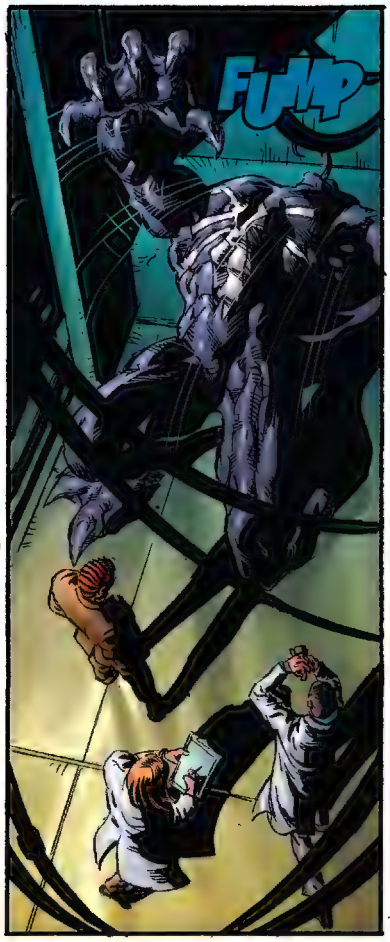
HEY...
THAT'S PRETTY GOOD.
AAIIEEEAAGGHH!
CRUNCH
IS VENOM FED?
YES SIR.
OPEN IT UP.

SKRULLS MAKE ME GASSY, OZMAN.

MAC, YOU BEHAVED YOURSELF DURING THE INVASION AND I PROMISED YOU I'D DO RIGHT BY YOU.


TAKE THIS.
YOU TRYING TO POISON ME?
I'M TRYING TO MAKE YOUR LIFE LIVABLE.
WHAT'LL IT DO?
HOPEFULLY... PRESERVE YOUR POWERS BUT MAKE YOU PRESENTABLE.
BUT I LIKE ME LIKE THIS.
YEAH?
YOU WANT TO GET OUT OF THIS MOUNTAIN? YOU WANT TO MEET A NICE GIRL? TAKE THIS.

IF THIS IS A TRICK...
IF I WANTED TO KILL YOU, I'D HAVE POISONED YOUR DINNER.


FUMP

AAARRRRR!!!

AHHAAHH!!
GRRR!

HHRR!!
TOOM

MAC?
HOW DO YOU FEEL?
CAN YOU GET UP?

YOU KNOW WHAT, NORMY?
I TAKE BACK EVERYTHING I'VE EVER SAID ABOUT YOU.
WELL, ALMOST EVERYTHING...

NEW ORLEANS, FOUR DAYS AGO.
Wyrola
PIZZA
EXPRESS
WOOD-FIRED ENTREES
FABULOUS
SANDWICHES
OPEN
DAKEN AKIHIRO, I'M NORMAN OSBORN. THIS IS ARES, GOD OF WAR.
HOY!
YOU'RE NOT IN TROUBLE.
COME. SIT.
YOU HAVE TO TASTE THIS.
'TIS GLORIOUS CRAP.
HOW DID YOU KNOW I'D BE HERE?
YOU'RE AN UNSTABLE MUTANT KILLER, IT'S NOW MY JOB TO KNOW WHERE YOU ARE.
ARE YOU THE REASON I'M HERE?
YES.
SO THERE'S NO JOB FOR ME?
MAN'S GOT THE STONES TO BEAT THE HELL OUT OF WOLVERINE AND WANTS TO KNOW IF THERE'S A JOB.
THAT IS BETWEEN ME AND MY FATHER.

HA!!
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
JUST CAN'T IMAGINE A WOMAN WHO'D LET THAT FERRET CLIMB ON TOP OF--
SNIRT
THAT IS MY MOTHER YOU'RE SPEAKING OF!!
I'D LIKE TO HIRE YOU FULL-TIME.
TO DO WHAT?
WELL, TICK OFF YOUR DAD FOR STARTERS...

THE CUBE, MAXIMUM SECURITY PENITENTIARY. THREE DAYS AGO.

WHY ARE YOU HERE?

YOU'RE A WAR HERO, NOH-VARR. WHY ARE YOU SITTING IN A CLOSED JAIL?

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

I'M FASCINATED BY YOU.

YOU CAME HERE FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION, DECLARED WAR ON THE EARTH, BUT WHEN PUSH CAME TO SHOVE, YOU DEFENDED IT.

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

I WANT YOU TO BE WHAT YOU ALREADY ARE...

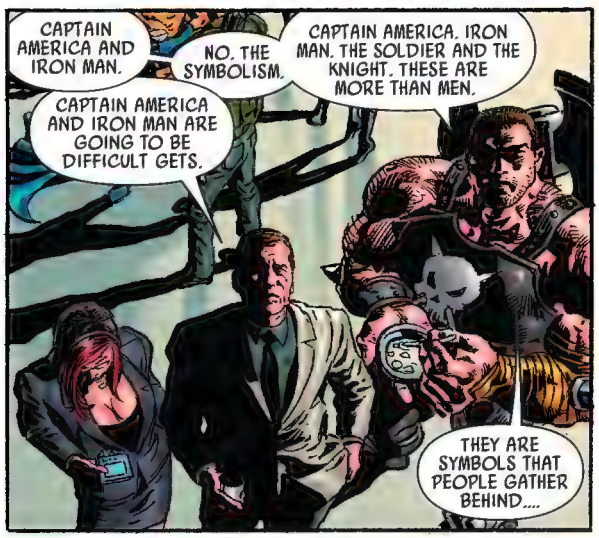
KREE WARRIOR, SWORN ENEMY OF THE SKRULL EMPIRE.

THE STRANGER FROM ANOTHER WORLD WHO STOOD ALONGSIDE US AND HELPED SAVE THE WORLD.

I WANT YOU TO *BE* CAPTAIN MARVEL.

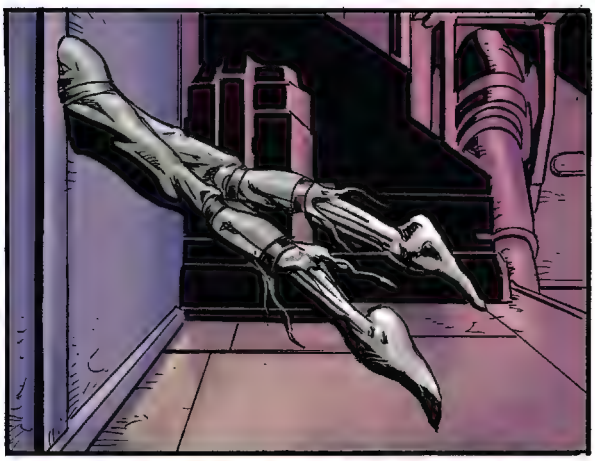
WHAT ARE WE MISSING, VICTORIA?
MISSING?
THERE'S SOMETHING MISSING.
AN ENEMY?
NO. THE TEAM ITSELF.

IT'S A PRETTY HARD-CORE TEAM, SIR.
MAYBE TOO HARDCORE FOR THE PUBLIC TASTE.
I KNOW, BUT--
I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT THAT. THAT'S WHAT THE WORLD WANTS RIGHT NOW.
YOU NEED A JARVIS.
WHAT'S A JARVIS?
YOU NEED A FULL STAFF OF HOUSEKEEPERS, COOKS AND ARMED GUARDS AT EVERY DOOR.
YOUR REFORMED THUNDERBOLTS ARE TRULY DISGUSTING PIGS.
I'LL PUT TOGETHER A LIST.
YES, BUT...
THE TEAM ITSELF. IT'S MISSING SOMETHING.

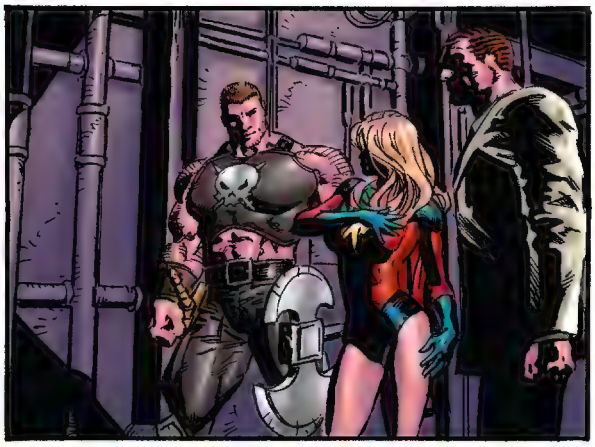

CAPTAIN AMERICA AND IRON MAN.
NO. THE SYMBOLISM.
CAPTAIN AMERICA, IRON MAN, THE SOLDIER AND THE KNIGHT. THESE ARE MORE THAN MEN.
CAPTAIN AMERICA AND IRON MAN ARE GOING TO BE DIFFICULT GETS.
THEY ARE SYMBOLS THAT PEOPLE GATHER BEHIND....

YOUR THREE O' CLOCK IS HERE.

THEY CALL ME THE GHOST.
I KNOW. I CALLED FOR YOU.
I WASN'T GOING TO COME. I WASN'T. BUT YOU GOT ME AN INVITE INSIDE STARK TOWER.
IT'S TOO TEMPTING. I HATE TONY STARK.
I KNOW.
I KNOW.
I HATE THIS CORPORATIST GOVERNMENT WORLD WE LIVE IN.
AND HE REPRESENTS-- REPRESENTED ALL OF IT. EVERY SICKENING THING.
I'M GOING TO BRING IT ALL DOWN, MAN. ALL OF IT.
GOOD LUCK WITH THAT.
DON'T CONDESCEND TO ME, MAN!! I HAVE THE POWER TO SLIP INTO ANY ROOM, ANY ALARM, ANY CODE...
I KNOW. I KNOW...
THAT'S WHY I INVITED YOU HERE.
GO IN THERE AND OPEN THE DOOR FOR ME.
WHAT'S IN THERE?
I DON'T KNOW.
IT WAS TONY STARK'S AND NOW IT'S MINE.
WHO BETTER THAN YOU TO OPEN THIS DOOR FOR ME.
WHAT DO I GET OUT OF IT?
I HAVE PLANS FOR YOU.
YOU- YOU WANT ME TO BE AN AVENGER?
YOU? NO.
THAT WOULD BE A SLAP IN THE FACE OF EVERYTHING YOU STAND FOR.
BUT I HAVE A PLACE FOR YOU. BIG PLANS.
IF YOU WOULD.
AND ALL I HAVE TO DO IS OPEN THIS?



WHERE'D YOU GET HIM?
SSHH!
HE SMELLS.
QUIET.
BADLY.



YOU'RE A FINE WOMAN.
YES, I AM.
OH, MY GOD...

C-CHUNG!

ALATVERIA. THIS MORNING.

THIS IS THUNDERBOLTS AGENT 567 LUCAS COMING IN ON CASTLE DOOM FINAL APPROACH.

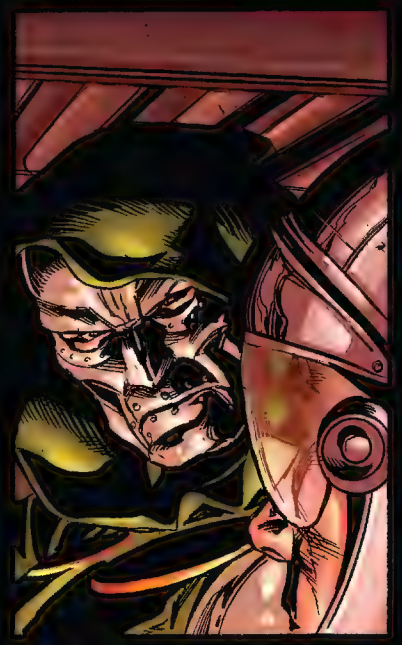
WE HAVE VICTOR VON DOOM IN TOW. OVER.

THIS IS THUNDERBOLTS AGENT 567 LUCAS COMING IN ON CASTLE DOOM FINAL APPROACH.

WE HAVE VICTOR VON DOOM IN TOW. OVER.

ISN'T THERE A GROUND CREW?

EXCUSE ME, DOCTOR, CAN WE TAKE A PICTURE.



AVENGERS TOWER, NOW.
YOUR...
AVENGERS!!!
THE ALL NEW...
CAPTAIN MARVEL
SENTRY
MS. MARVEL
ARES
WOLVERINE
HAWKEYE
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
EMBRACE THIS AVENGERS ASSEMBLE
I AM THE IRON PATRIOT.
I WILL LEAD THESE NEW AVENGERS INTO BATTLE AGAINST ANYONE WHO WOULD THREATEN OUR WAY OF LIFE.
MY NAME IS NORMAN OSBORN AND I APPROVE THESE AVENGERS!!

DARK AVENGERS #1 VARIANT BY
MARKO DJURDJEVIĆ

DARK AVENGERS #1 VARIANT BY
ADI GRANOV

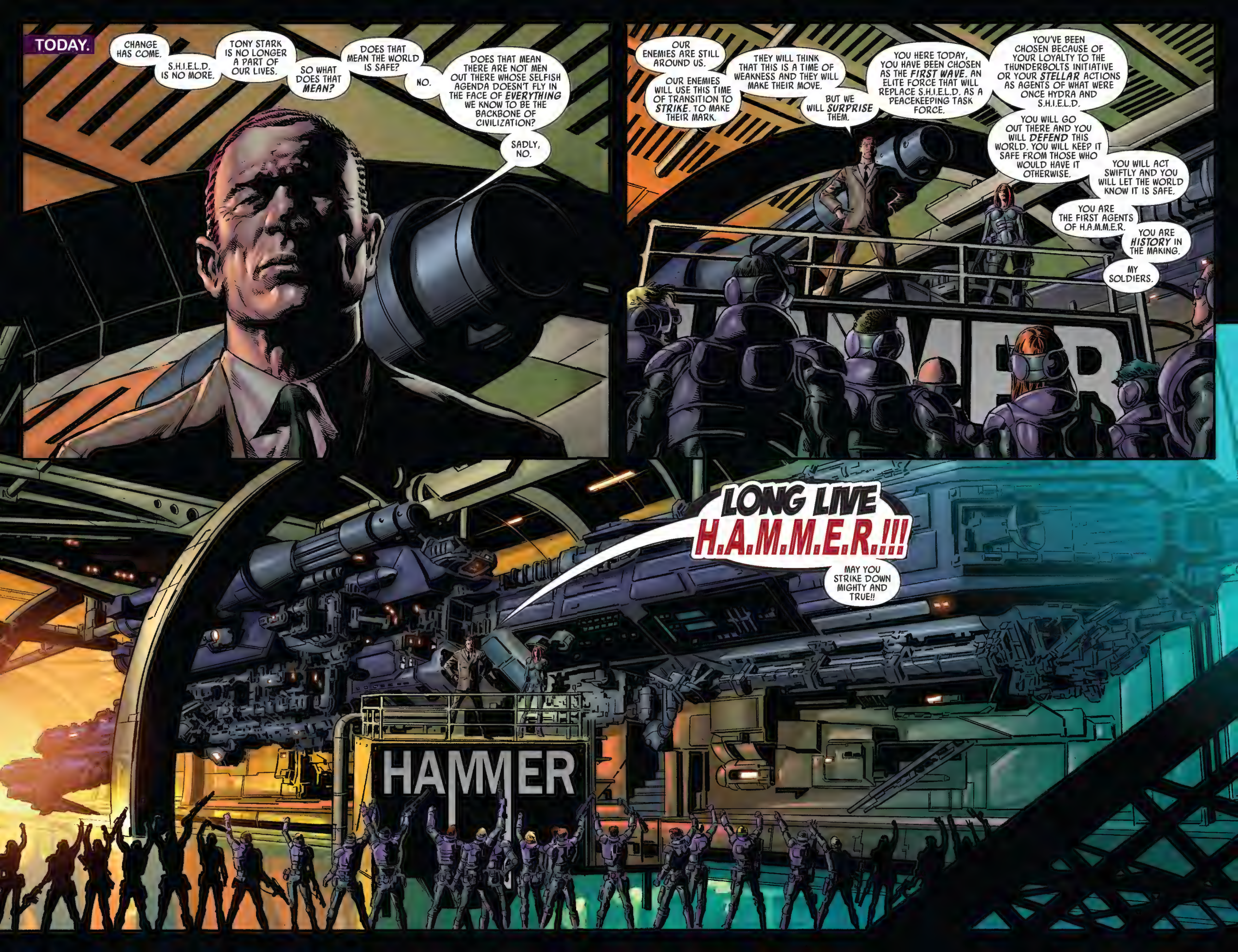
DARK AVENGERS #1 2ND-PRINTING VARIANT BY
MIKE DEODATO JR. & RAIN BEREDO

DARK AVENGERS #2 VARIANT BY
MIKE CHOI & SONIA OBACK

DARK AVENGERS #2

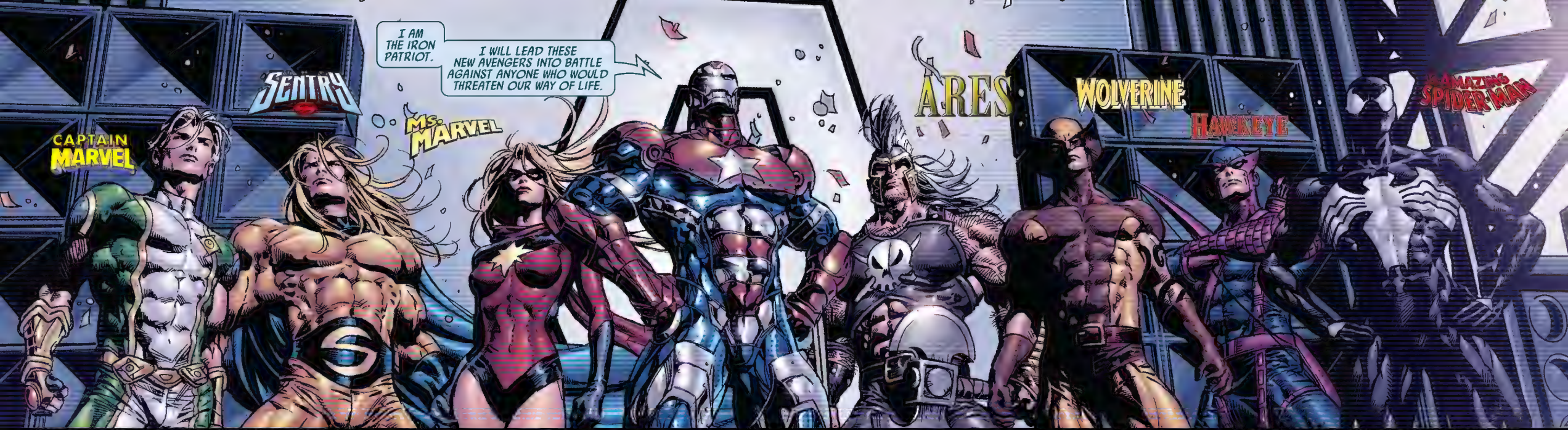
LATVERIA, 37 YEARS AGO.
YOU'VE STOLEN FROM ME, VICTOR VON DOOM.
YOU BETRAYED ME.
YOU BETRAYED MY TRUST.
YOU USED ME TO STEAL THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE DARK ARTS I HAVE EARNED FOR MYSELF OVER LIFETIMES OF STUDY.
AND TONIGHT YOU WILL DIE FOR IT.
AND THE WORLD WILL BE SPARED YOUR FUTURE SELFISH VILLAINY...

NO.
AS MUCH EFFORT AS IT WAS TO TRAVEL TO THIS TIME AND FIND YOU...
TO DO IT LIKE THIS...YOU'LL NEVER KNOW *WHY* YOU DIED.
YOU'LL NOT KNOW IT WAS ME.
NO, NO, NO.
YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND *WHY* YOU ARE BEING PUNISHED.
YOU HAVE TO KNOW IT WAS MORGANA LE FAY WHOSE HEART YOU BROKE.
"IT IS A NEW DAY..."

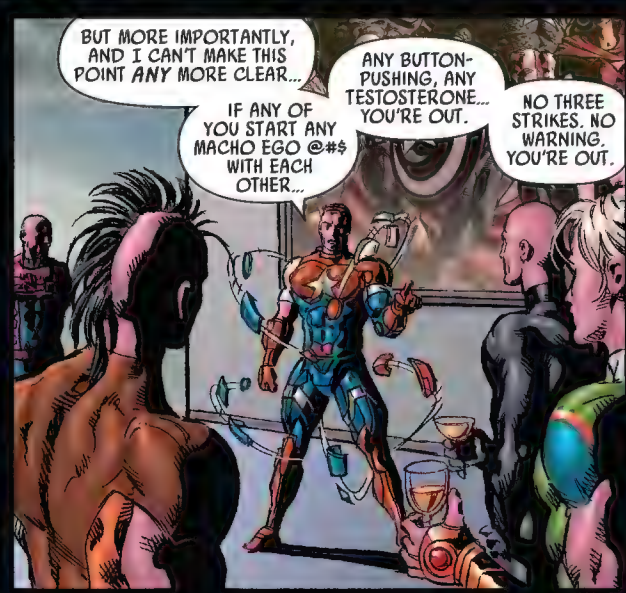

TODAY.
CHANGE HAS COME.
S.H.I.E.L.D. IS NO MORE.
TONY STARK IS NO LONGER A PART OF OUR LIVES.
SO WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
DOES THAT MEAN THE WORLD IS SAFE?
NO.
DOES THAT MEAN THERE ARE NOT MEN OUT THERE WHOSE SELFISH AGENDA DOESN'T FLY IN THE FACE OF EVERYTHING WE KNOW TO BE THE BACKBONE OF CIVILIZATION?
SADLY, NO.
OUR ENEMIES ARE STILL AROUND US.
OUR ENEMIES WILL USE THIS TIME OF TRANSITION TO STRIKE. TO MAKE THEIR MARK.
THEY WILL THINK THAT THIS IS A TIME OF WEAKNESS AND THEY WILL MAKE THEIR MOVE.
BUT WE WILL SURPRISE THEM.
YOU HERE TODAY, YOU HAVE BEEN CHOSEN AS THE FIRST WAVE. AN ELITE FORCE THAT WILL REPLACE S.H.I.E.L.D. AS A PEACEKEEPING TASK FORCE.
YOU'VE BEEN CHOSEN BECAUSE OF YOUR LOYALTY TO THE THUNDERBOLTS INITIATIVE OR YOUR STELLAR ACTIONS AS AGENTS OF WHAT WERE ONCE HYDRA AND S.H.I.E.L.D.
YOU WILL GO OUT THERE AND YOU WILL DEFEND THIS WORLD. YOU WILL KEEP IT SAFE FROM THOSE WHO WOULD HAVE IT OTHERWISE.
YOU WILL ACT SWIFTLY AND YOU WILL LET THE WORLD KNOW IT IS SAFE.
YOU ARE THE FIRST AGENTS OF H.A.M.M.E.R.
YOU ARE HISTORY IN THE MAKING.
MY SOLDIERS.
LONG LIVE H.A.M.M.E.R.!!!
MAY YOU STRIKE DOWN MIGHTY AND TRUE!!
HAMMER

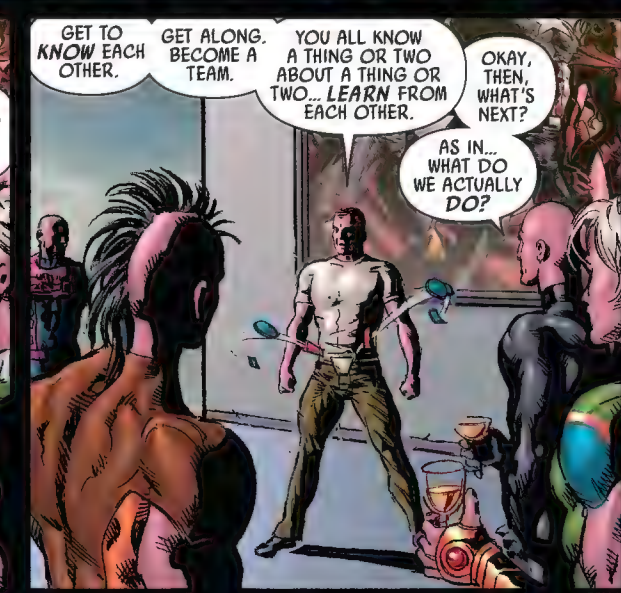
WHO THE HELL IS--?
MORGANA!?
CASTLE DOOM, LATVERIA.
YOU'VE STOLEN FROM ME, VICTOR VON DOOM.
YOU BETRAYED ME.
YOU CAME TO ME AND OFFERED YOURSELF TO ME IN TRADE FOR MY DARK SECRETS. YOU BETRAYED MY TRUST AND TONIGHT YOU WILL DIE FOR IT!!
MORGANA, LOOK AROUND YOU!
AND THE WORLD WILL BE SPARED ANY MORE OF YOUR SELFISH VILLAINY...
LOOK AROUND YOU!
CAN'T YOU SEE I'VE LOST MY KINGDOM?
NO...
NOW YOU HAVE.

MORGANA, I WILL NOT TOLERATE THIS!!
EVEN YOUR GROVELLING IS ARROGANT.
FASTUNATA GULANINATOO!!!
BRING HIM HERE!
BLOOD AND BONES!
PREVISATANUTA MILISANUTI. PREVISATANUTA MILISANUTI.
PREVISATANUTA MILISANUTI. PREVISATANUTA MILISANUTI.
THIS IS DELTA NINER SIX FIVE TWO!
WE ARE UNDER ATTACK.
REPEAT, WE ARE IN LATVERIA, CASTLE DOOM. COORDINATES: NINE FIVE TWO.

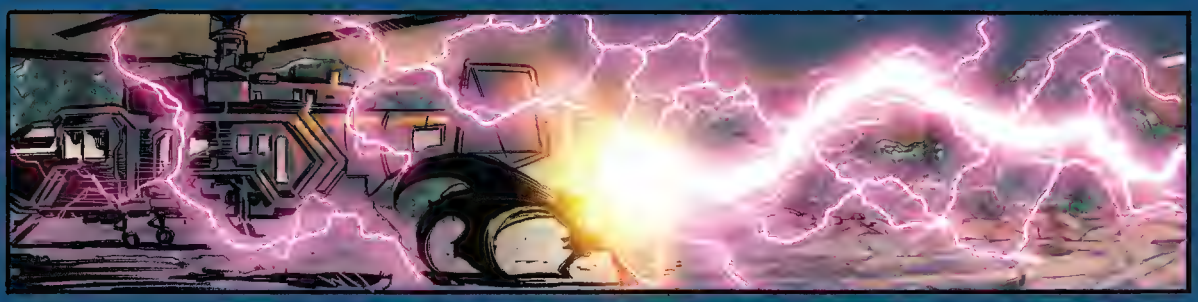


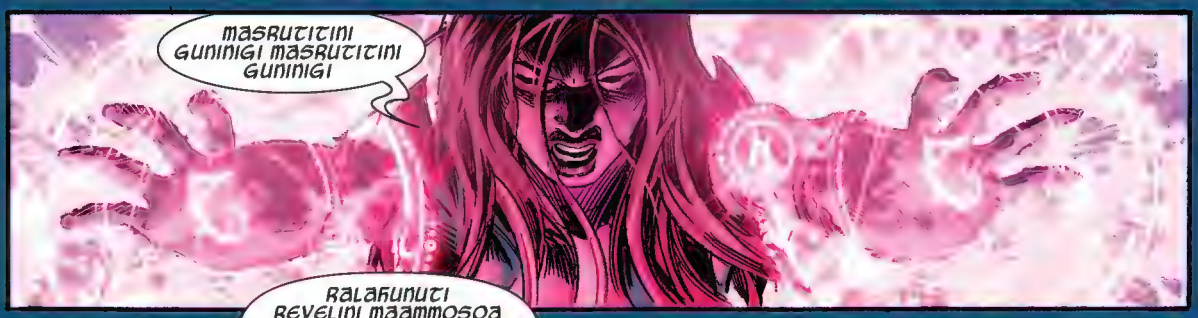
AVENGERS ASSEMBLE! LIVE FROM AVENGERS TOWER...NEW YORK CITY. AVENGERS ASSEMBLE! LIVE FROM AVENGERS TOWER...NEW YORK C





WE'RE GOING TO PREPARE A LIST OF TARGETS AROUND THE WORLD AND STRIKE AT THEM.
OF COURSE, ARES.
IT'S WHY YOU'RE HERE.
AYE. ALLOW ME TO CONTRIBUTE TO THAT.
AYE.
THIS, MY FRIENDS, IS VICTORIA HAND...
SHE'S DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF H.A.M.M.E.R. SHE'S MY SECOND IN COMMAND.
WHOA WAIT. I'M NOT EVEN SECOND IN COMMAND NOW??
YOU'RE MY MS. MARVEL. YOU'RE FIELD LEADER!
OKAY THEN.
IF, GOD FORBID, SOMETHING HAPPENS TO ME.
BUT YOU ANSWER TO HER.
YOU SUCK.
WHO IS SHE?
SHE'S ME AS FAR AS YOU'RE CONCERNED.
DOES SHE TALK?
YES.
NOW STEP OUT OF MY AIRSPACE OR I'LL HAVE YOU REPLACED WITH D-MAN.
WHAT'S A D-MAN?
IT'S NOT A COMPLIMENT.
OSBORN, WE NEED TO DO A SKRULL SWEEP.
YES.
THERE ARE SOME OF THEM STILL OUT THERE.
NOT AS MANY AS YOU THINK, MARVEL BOY.
CAPTAIN MARVEL.
RIGHT. SORRY.
WE HAVE PEOPLE ON THAT. NO, SKRULLS ARE YESTERDAY'S NEWS.
WE NEED YOU, US, TO MAKE PEOPLE FEEL SAFE FOR TOMORROW.
HOW ABOUT TONY STARK? RIGHT? ENEMY NUMBER ONE? HE LET THE INVASION HAPPEN. HE'S A WAR CRIMINAL, RIGHT? LET'S GO GET HIM.
NO.
FOR NOW, TONY STARK IS A COURT OF LAW MATTER.
KICKING A MAN WHILE HE'S DOWN IS HARDLY A WAY TO WIN OVER THE PUBLIC.
I DO.
SO YOU DO, TOO.
WHO CARES ABOUT THAT ON ANY LEVEL?
SHOULD WE GO AROUND THE ROOM AND INTRODUCE OURSELVES?
WHY?
THAT WAS MY NICE WAY OF SAYING I DON'T KNOW WHO THE @#$% YOU ARE!
SERIOUSLY...
WHO IS THIS?




MASRUTITINI GUNINIGI MASRUTITINI GUNINIGI

RALAKUNUTI REVELINI MAAMMOSOA RALAKUNUTI REVELINI MAAMMOSOA RALAKUNUTI REVELINI MAAMMOSOA

MASRUTITINI GUNINIGI MASRUTITINI GUNINIGI

RALAKUNUTI REVELINI MAAMMOSOA RALAKUNUTI REVELINI MAAMMOSOA RALAKUNUTI REVELINI MAAMMOSOA

BAVALOOMNI.

GYYAARRGHH!
YOU WOULD NOT BELIEVE HOW LONG I HAVE WAITED TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT.
CRACOOM

I SAID HE'S OUR WOLVERINE.
NOW WE HAVE ONE TOO. THEY HAVE ONE, WE HAVE--
HOLD ON.
THIS JUST CAME IN OVER THE SECURE LINE.
WHAT IS IT?
I CAN PUT IT UP.
PUT IT UP.

THIS IS DELTA NINER SIX FIVE TWO.
WE ARE UNDER ATTACK.
REPEAT, WE ARE IN LATVERIA, CASTLE DOOM. COORDINATES: NINE FIVE TWO.
WE ARE UNDER ATTACK.
UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE.
DOCTOR DOOM IS DOWN. I REPEAT, DOCTOR DOOM IS DOWN!!

UM...WHY IS DOCTOR DOOM BACK IN LATVERIA?
I SENT HIM THERE.
VICTORIA, YOU GET ME SATELLITE FOOTAGE, YOU GET ME INTEL.
YES, SIR.

DAMN.
HELPING DOOM ISN'T THE IDEAL FIRST MISSION.
SUIT UP, AVENGERS.
LET'S GO DO SOMETHING.

LEAST WE GET TO SEE WHAT THE TEAM CAN DO.

GAGAGOO!!
GADAPOO!!
SO BEAUTIFUL.
GAGAGOO!! GAGAGOO!! GADAPOO!! GADAPOO!!
GAGAGOO!!
GADAPOO!!

HMM.
WHO DO WE THINK ALL THIS IS?
MAAAII!!
ZAAAMM
I KNOW EXACTLY WHO THAT IS!
IT'S MORGANA LE FAY.
DARK SORCERESS FROM ANOTHER TIME.
CAN I EAT HER?
WHY DO YOU ALWAYS HAVE TO MAKE IT ABOUT EAT--
CRUNCH

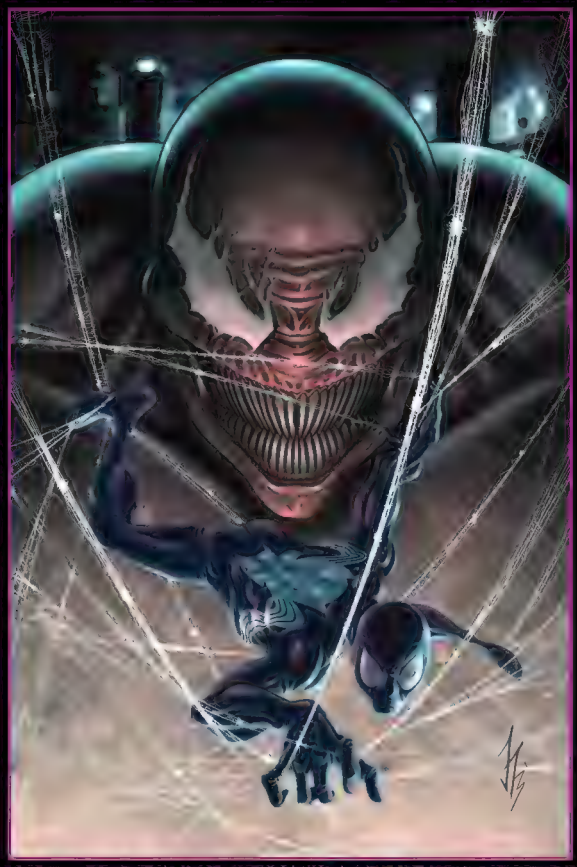
KRAKOOM
MY NAME IS NORMAN OSBORN, LEADER OF THE AVENGERS. MISS FAY!
WE'RE HERE TO ASK YOU TO GO BACK TO WHERE YOU CAME FROM OR FACE US HEAD-ON!
I'VE BATTLED AVENGERS BEFORE, NOBLE KNIGHT.
NOT LIKE US, YOU HAVEN'T.
SURRENDER OR LEAVE.
OR WHAT?
BOB,
YOU HAVE MY PERMISSION...
DON'T HOLD BACK.

I DON'T SAY THIS MUCH, BUT...
WHOA.
WHAT I DID?
WAS IT A GOOD THING OR A BAD THING?
HA!
WELL, THAT'S ONE WAY TO END A FIGHT.
WAS IT A GOOD THING OR A BAD THING?
GOOD THING, BOB. ABSOLUTELY.
IT WAS?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU, EXACTLY?
VICTOR?
HE ALRIGHT?
IS IT REALLY HIM?
IT IS.
SHE TOOK HIM DOWN. SHE GOT HIM.
NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE LOOKING RIGHT AT HIM.
DOOM?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM? I THOUGHT THIS WAS THE BIG OL' DOCTOR DOOM. I THOUGHT HE--
HE'S BREATHING.
IN A COMA, MAYBE?
I WONDER WHAT HE DID TO MAKE THE SORCERESS SO INSANE SHE WOULD TRAVEL TO OUR TIME TO PUNISH HIM SO SEVERELY.
SHE TIME-TRAVELED TO DO THIS?
WELL, SHE'S FROM THE TIME OF ARTHUR PENDRAGON.
KING ARTHUR.
LONG WAY TO GO TO GET YOUR HEAD POPPED OFF.

HAND, THIS IS IRON PATRIOT.
HE'S REALLY GOING TO CALL HIMSELF THAT IN PUBLIC?
WE'RE ON THE GROUND AT CASTLE DOOM.
WE NEED A CLEAN-UP TEAM, AND WE NEED AN EVAC, ASAP.
UM...
BOB, WHAT'S WRONG WITH--??
OW!
SOMETHING'S...
WROAAAGGHH...
SON OF A--
OKAY, HAND, I DON'T KNOW IF YOU SAW THAT BUT THE SENTRY IS...GONE.

UNDERSTAND THIS, YOU SIMPLE, SIMPLE MORTALS OF FLESH...
I AM NOT FROM YOUR TIME.
EVEN IF YOU KILL ME HERE,
I CAN COME BACK FROM MY TIME IN THE FAR PAST AND DESTROY YOU.
DO IT AGAIN AND I'LL COME BACK IN YOUR CHILDHOOD AND REMOVE YOU FROM EXISTENCE.
MORGANA, I AM ARES, GOD OF WAR, SON OF ZEUS!
AND I DEMAND THAT YOU GO BACK WHENCE YOU CAME!!
IT IS YOU, MIGHTY ARES.
MY HUMBLEST APOLOGIES FOR NOT RECOGNIZING YOU BEFORE.
YOU SAY ZEUS'S NAME AS IF YOUR FATHER CARES IF YOU LIVE OR DIE.
I KNOW IN THIS TIME HE DOES NOT.
Pavati mulandooso.
NNYYAARRGGHH!!
CHAMP
JEEZ!

DARK AVENGERS #3 VARIANT BY
DANIEL ACUÑA



DARK AVENGERS #4 VARIANT BY
STEFANO CASELLI

DARK AVENGERS #5 VARIANT BY
KHOI PHAM, DANNY MIKI & JASON KEITH

DARK AVENGERS #6 VARIANT BY
RAFA SANDOVAL, ROGER BONET & JOHN RAUCH

DARK AVENGERS #3

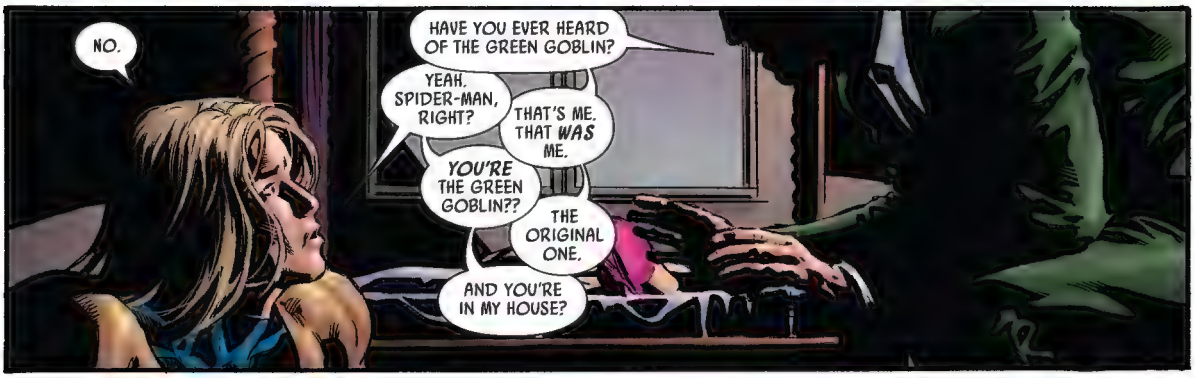
AVENGERS TOWER.
DAYS AGO.
NORMAN OSBORN IS HERE.
GOOD MORNING.
NORMAN OSBORN IS HERE.
BOB?
OH...
UH...
HELLO?
SINCE WE'RE GOING TO BE NEIGHBORS, I THOUGHT I'D INTRODUCE MYSELF.
I'M NORMAN OSBORN.
I'M... BOB.
IS THAT YOUR WIFE?
SHE'S SLEEPING.
SHE SLEEPS... A LOT.
IS SHE OKAY?
I DON'T KNOW.
IS SHE BREATHING?
WHAT? NO. YES. SHE'S-- SHE'S JUST ASLEEP.
HOW ARE YOU DOING, BOB?

I'M..UM... I'M OK?
YEAH? I READ TONY STARK'S FILE ON YOU.
WHAT DID IT SAY? NO. NEVER MIND. I CAN GUESS.

HE WAS A LITTLE AFRAID OF YOU.

I KNOW. I THINK A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE.
I THINK LINDY IS.

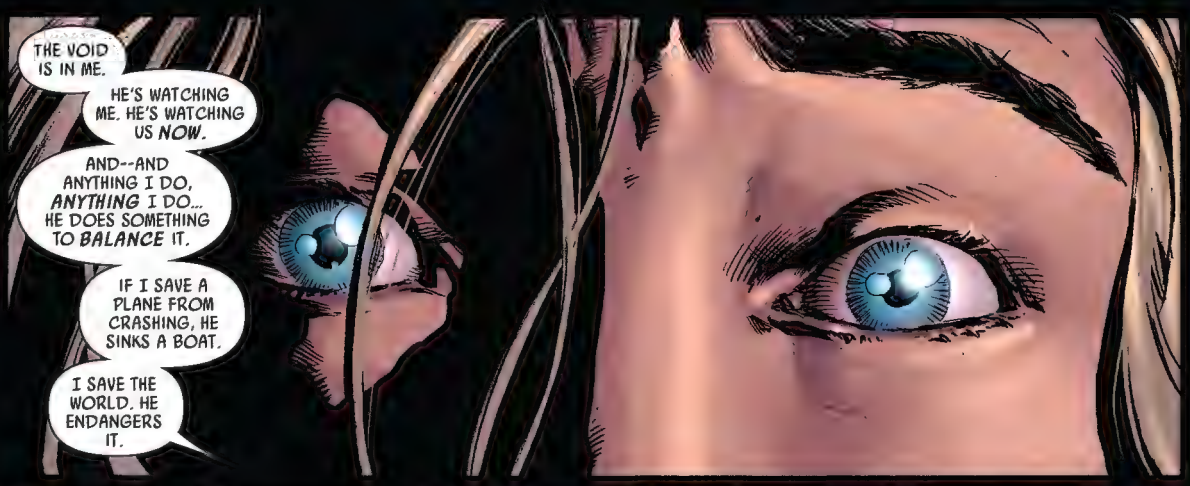
WHAT ARE THEY AFRAID OF?
I-I HAVE SOME PROBLEMS. SOME, UM, MENTAL PROBLEMS.
I HAVE A HARD TIME... SOMETIMES.
ME TOO, YOU KNOW.
YOU TOO WHAT?
I HAVE SOME... "ISSUES." I HAVE-- DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ME, BOB?


NO.
HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF THE GREEN GOBLIN?
YEAH. SPIDER-MAN, RIGHT?
THAT'S ME. THAT WAS ME.
YOU'RE THE GREEN GOBLIN??
THE ORIGINAL ONE.
AND YOU'RE IN MY HOUSE?

I'M NOT THE GREEN GOBLIN NOW, BOB.
I'M OKAY NOW. I'M UNDER CONTROL.
SO UNDER CONTROL THAT I NOW HAVE TONY STARK'S JOB.
I HAVE THIS BUILDING. I'M RUNNING THE AVENGERS. I CAME UP HERE TO TELL YOU... YOU CAN CONTROL THIS, BOB.
JUST--JUST CHOOSE TO.

N-NO.
YOU CAN.
YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT IS GOING ON HERE.
WHAT IS GOING ON HERE?
I-I...

I HAVE VOICES IN MY HEAD TOO, BOB. WHISPERING.
TELLING ME TO DO THINGS I KNOW ARE WRONG. BEGGING ME TO MAKE CHOICES I KNOW WILL HURT PEOPLE. PEOPLE I LOVE.
BUT, AND IT TOOK ME A LONG TIME TO FIND THIS, BUT I'M IN CONTROL. ME.
V-VOICES?
JUST LIKE YOU.
IN MY FILE...
DID IT TALK ABOUT...
HIM?
THE VOID? YES.

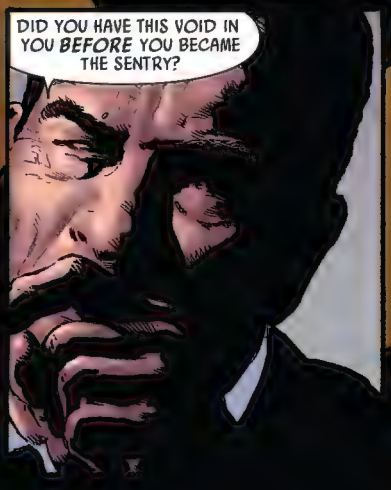

THE VOID IS IN ME.
HE'S WATCHING ME. HE'S WATCHING US NOW.
AND--AND ANYTHING I DO, ANYTHING I DO... HE DOES SOMETHING TO BALANCE IT.
IF I SAVE A PLANE FROM CRASHING, HE SINKS A BOAT.
I SAVE THE WORLD. HE ENDANGERS IT.

THE VOID IS YOU, BOB.

SNFFF...

I THINK--
YOU DON'T KNOW.
AND I-I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF HE'S SPEAKING TO YOU. OR I AM.
I CAN'T TELL.
I-I CAN'T TELL.

THERE IS NO "HE," BOB. IT'S YOU.
THERE IS NO VOID.
YOU. BOB REYNOLDS. THE SENTRY. THIS POWER...IT'S YOU.
IT MAY BE MORE POWER THAN YOU CAN HANDLE. THAT MAY BE THE PROBLEM.


DID YOU HAVE THIS VOID IN YOU BEFORE YOU BECAME THE SENTRY?

NO.

SO THERE YOU GO! IT'S CHEMICAL, BOB. CHEMICAL.
IT MAY NOT FEEL THAT WAY BECAUSE IT FEELS SO REAL. I KNOW. BUT THIS IS GOOD. THIS--YOU CAN CONTROL THIS.
I'M HERE TO TELL YOU. TO SAY TO YOU, LOOK. LOOK AT ME. IT CAN BE DONE.
THE POWER IS IN YOU, YOU CAN DO THIS. IF I CAN CONTROL MY DEMONS, YOU CAN TOO.
I DON'T THINK YOU UNDERSTAND.
I DO. I'M NOT AFRAID OF YOU, BOB. I'M PROUD OF YOU. THIS STRUGGLE. IT'S INSPIRING TO ME.
I'M HONORED TO HAVE MET YOU. ESPECIALLY TODAY.
WHAT'S TODAY?
TODAY'S THE DAY YOU'RE GOING TO GET YOUR @#$% TOGETHER, BOB.
BUT--
TODAY YOU--AND ME--WE'RE GOING TO DECIDE TO LIVE LIFE TO THE FULLEST.
AND I PROMISE YOU, NOTHING BAD WILL HAPPEN.
HE COMES--
THERE IS NO VOID, BOB. SAY IT WITH ME.

THERE IS!

THERE IS NO VOID.

THERE IS!

THERE IS NO VOID.

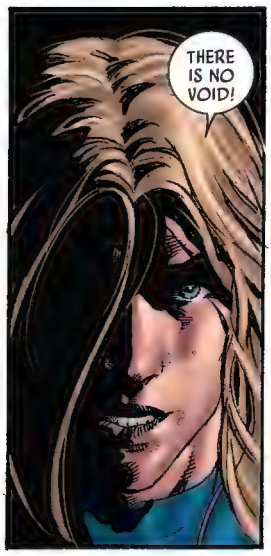
WHERE IS HE, BOB?
I'M HERE.
I'M THREATENING HIS EXISTENCE. I'M INSULTING HIM.
AND I DON'T SEE HIM ANYWHERE.

VOID?

THERE IS NO VOID.
NO VOID. NO GOBLINS...
SAY IT.
THERE IS NO VOID.

THERE-- THERE IS NO VOID.

THERE IS NO VOID!


THERE IS NO VOID!

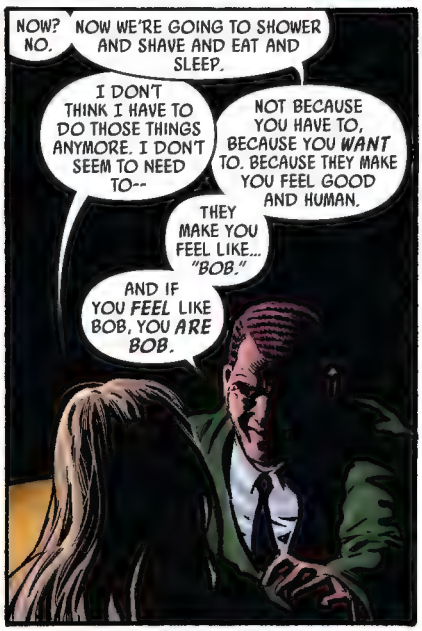
AND THERE NEVER WAS.

IS HE TALKING TO YOU NOW?
WHO?
THE VOID.
DO YOU HEAR HIM?
NO.
DO YOU SEE HIM?
NO.
BECAUSE THERE IS NO VOID. AS LONG AS *YOU* SAY SO--THERE IS *NO VOID*.

AS LONG AS *I* SAY SO?

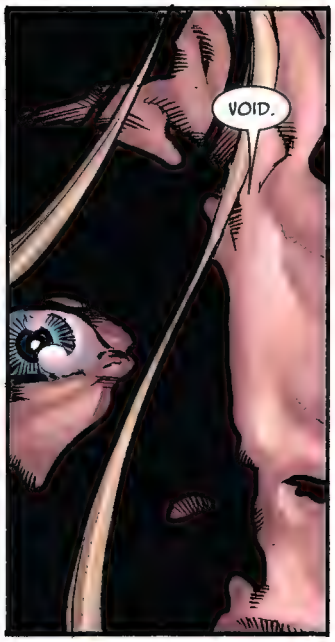
HERE'S WHAT HAPPENS NEXT--WE'RE GOING TO USE OUR POWERS TO DO THAT WHICH TONY STARK AND NICK FURY AND CAPTAIN AMERICA COULD *NOT* DO.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO THAT WITH ME? WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE AN AVENGER? THE HERO YOU ARE?

TODAY?
NOW?


NOW? NO.
NOW WE'RE GOING TO SHOWER AND SHAVE AND EAT AND SLEEP.
I DON'T THINK I HAVE TO DO THOSE THINGS ANYMORE. I DON'T SEEM TO NEED TO--
NOT BECAUSE YOU HAVE TO, BECAUSE YOU *WANT* TO. BECAUSE THEY MAKE YOU FEEL GOOD AND HUMAN.
THEY MAKE YOU FEEL LIKE... *"BOB."*
AND IF YOU *FEEL* LIKE BOB, YOU *ARE BOB*.

I THINK YOU'RE--YOU KNOW WHAT?
I *DON'T* DO THOSE THINGS ANYMORE. YOU'RE RIGHT!
I LOVE A HOT SHOWER. I LOVE HAMBURGERS. I DO.
I HAVEN'T EATEN IN FOREVER.

AND WHEN YOU DENY YOURSELF YOUR HUMANITY...
YOU CREATE SOMETHING ELSE. YOU CREATE A...


VOID.

YOU WILL?

DAMN RIGHT. WE'RE ROOMMATES NOW. TEAMMATES IF YOU WANT TO BE.

NO ONE HAS EVER TALKED TO ME LIKE THIS BEFORE.

DO YOU KNOW WHY?

BECAUSE NO ONE HAS UNDERSTOOD YOU LIKE I DO.
BELIEVE ME, THIS ROAD WE'RE ON, IT'S A TOUGH ONE, BUT WHEN IT WORKS...
WHEN THOSE MOMENTS HAPPEN...
IT'S ALL WORTH IT.

VICTORIA. I WANT YOU TO SEND SOMEONE OUT TO 5 GUYS BURGERS AND FRIES.
ORDER FOR EVERYONE, CHEESEBURGERS, SHAKES, FRIES, BACON BURGERS, ONION RINGS...
ORDER EVERYTHING THEY GOT. LET ME KNOW WHEN IT'S HERE.
WHAT? NO, I'M NOT JOKING.

5 GUYS BURGERS.
YOU'RE GOING TO FAINT FROM HAPPINESS.

THANK YOU FOR THIS.
NO WORRIES.

VISTUNI MANANA.
VISTUNI ALAGULNAU.
VISTUNI CROLONU...

THE CASTLE OF MORGANA LE FAY, 690 A.D.
VISTUNI MANANA.
VISTUNI ALAGULNAU.
VISTUNI CROLONU...
WATERS OF AVALON, SHOW ME MORE. SHOW ME ALL THE SECRETS OF MY ENEMIES.
SHOW ME HOW TO BEST THEM IN BATTLE.

THESE ARE VICTOR VON DOOM'S PROTECTORS?
THESE ARE AVENGERS? THESE ARE WARRIORS?
THEY ARE MADMEN AND THIEVES. MURDERERS AND DEVIANTS.
LIVING WITH A GOD OF WAR.
I LET THEM GET THE BEST OF ME. THAT WAS MY FAULT.
I COULD--YES--I COULD GO ANYWHERE IN TIME AND REMOVE THEM FROM EXISTENCE...
GLEEK.
BUT THERE ARE TOO MANY OVERLAPS WITH THESE SCOUNDRELS. MY OWN LIFELINE WOULD BE IN JEOPARDY. TOO MANY THINGS COULD GET LOST.
I HAVE TO GO AND FACE THEM IN BATTLE UNTIL MY POINT IS MADE.
GREE...
YES.
Vistuni manana. Vistuni alagulnau. Vistuni crolonu...
AND THIS TIME I'LL TRY NOT TO DIE.

CASTLE DOOM, LATVERIA.
NOW.
H.A.M.M.E.R. THIS IS OSBORN, OVER.
WHAT'S YOUR SITUATION?
BAD. WE ARE UP AGAINST AN ARMY. MYSTIC IN NATURE. CREATURES.
MYSTIC? DID YOU SAY MYSTIC?
THE SENTRY IS DOWN AND WE ARE WELL PAST OVERWHELMED!
THE SENTRY IS DOWN?!
AS IN GONE.
SENDING REINFORCEMENTS TO YOUR LOCATION!
DO NOT SEND BACKUP! I REPEAT: DO NOT SEND BACKUP!
I'D LIKE SOME BACKUP!
IF THE AVENGERS LED BY ARES, THE GOD OF WAR, CAN'T GET THIS DONE, WHAT ARE A COUPLE OF GRUNTS WITH GUNS GOING TO DO EXCEPT DIE?
I NEED AN INTEL SERVER DOWNLOAD ON ALL THINGS MORGANA LE FAY.
ON IT.
ARES, IF YOU GOT SOMETHING IN YOU, NOW'S THE TIME TO LET IT OUT!

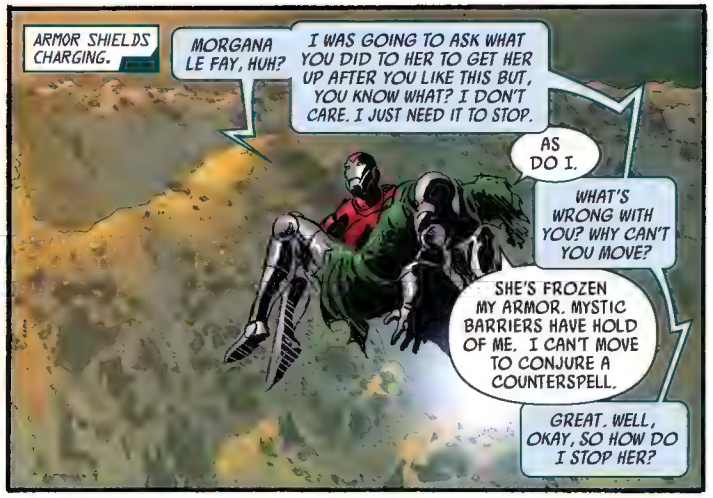
MORGANA LE FAY!
YOU WILL RETURN WHENCE YOU CAME!
I AM ARES, SON OF ZEUS, LORD OF WAR AND THIS TIME AND PLACE IS MINE TO UPHOLD!
YOU WILL TAKE YOUR HELLHOUNDS AND YOUR FURY AND YOU WILL LEAVE THIS PLANE OF EXISTENCE!
YOU WILL OBEY THIS LORD'S COMMAND OR MY AXE WILL FALL HEAVY UPON YOUR...
...YOUR...

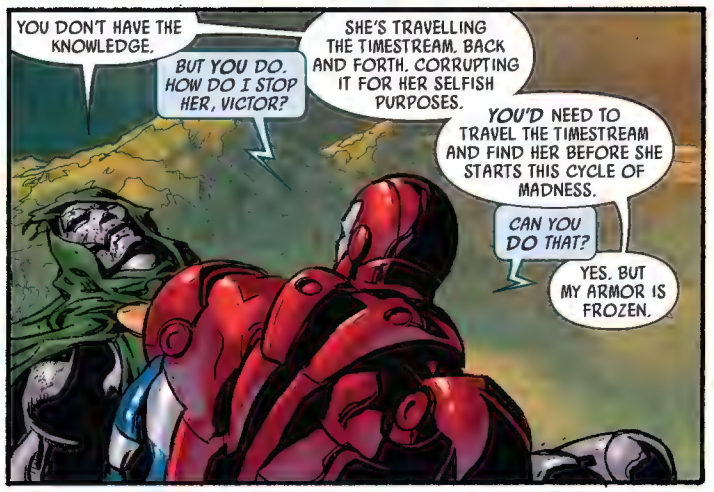
FUMP
UH-OH.
MORGANA LE FAY INTEL UPLOADING.
UPLOAD FASTER.
I ACCEPT YOUR SURRENDER AND YOUR SERVICE AS MY LOYAL SLAVES.
AAIIEE!
CHUCK
CHUCK
CHUCK
CHUCK
AND I WATCH YOU BURN IN THE EYE OF MY SUN.

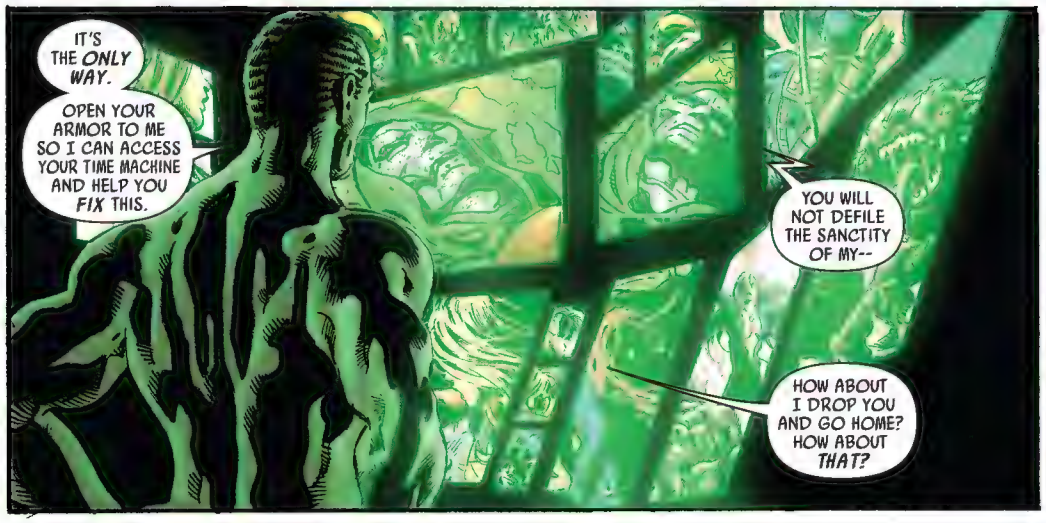
WELL, DAMN IT ALL TO HELL! HATE THIS DEMON MONKEY--
COME BACK HERE! COME BACK AND--
SETTLE DOWN, SPIDEY-MAN.
YOU SETTLE DOWN, ALIEN BOY! THAT THING JUST TRIED TO EAT ME!
AND THE IRONY IS COMPLETELY LOST ON HIM.
REALLY.
HAWKEYE! THAT WAS SPECTACULAR. TEN GOLD STARS.
DOOM?
STILL OUT.
VICTOR, CAN YOU HEAR ME?
"VICTOR?" YOU GUYS PALS OR SOMETHING?
IT'S HIS NAME.
SHOULD I SHAKE HIM?
DO NOT SHAKE HIM.
WE SHOULD GET HIM OUT OF HERE.
WHY?
WE KILLED HER TWICE. SHE'S NOT--
BECAUSE MAGIC LADY IS COMING BACK.
SHE CAME BACK ONCE.
AND WHEN SHE DID, SHE TOOK ONE OF US OUT.
FIVE MORE TIMES, SHE'S GOLD.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
WE NEED TO GET HIM OUT OF HERE AND FORTIFY OUR POSITION. VICTOR?
TOO LATE.
EVERYONE!
SPREAD OUT!
FHIZZZZ FHIZZZZ
NOW!

AVENGERS! GET BEHIND ME!
ARMOR SHIELD AT 77 PERCENT.
DAMN. I'VE NEVER BEEN SO TURNED ON IN MY LIFE!
RRRI'M HAVING TROUBLE HERRRRE AGAIN, GUYS. SHE'S DOING SOMETHING TO ME!
CCCAN'T CONTRRRAAAGGHH!! HHAARRGH!
HEY!
TAKE A POSITION!
FILSSHHOOOO
I THINK TAKING A POSITION WAS WHAT GOT ME IN THIS CRAP IN THE FIRST PLACE.
FILSSHHOOOO
SHAAMMMSHAAMM
ARMOR SHIELD AT 69 PERCENT.
VICTOR, CAN YOU HEAR ME? I NEED YOUR HELP HERE.
RUN AWAY.
THIS FIGHT IS NOT YOURS.
SURE...
OSBORN, WE HAVE UPLOADED THE MORGANA LE FAY FILES ONTO YOUR SERVERS. IT'S NOT MUCH, BUT IT'S THERE.
THANK YOU.
REINFORCEMENTS ARE STANDING BY. CAMP HAMMOND IS ON FULL ALERT.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

UH, BOSS JUST LEFT!
HE KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOING.
PLEASE KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING.
HEEELLPP MEE!
HELP YOU?
GO @#$% YOURSELF!

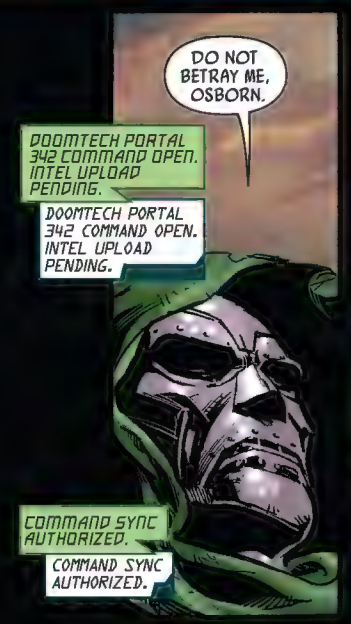






FOOM
FOOM
FOOM
AGH!
IMPACT DETECTED.

SHIELDS AT 33 PERCENT.
DOOM?!
DO I HAVE TO COUNT TO THREE?


DO NOT BETRAY ME, OSBORN.
DOOMTECH PORTAL 342 COMMAND OPEN. INTEL UPLOAD PENDING.
DOOMTECH PORTAL 342 COMMAND OPEN. INTEL UPLOAD PENDING.
COMMAND SYNC AUTHORIZED.
COMMAND SYNC AUTHORIZED.

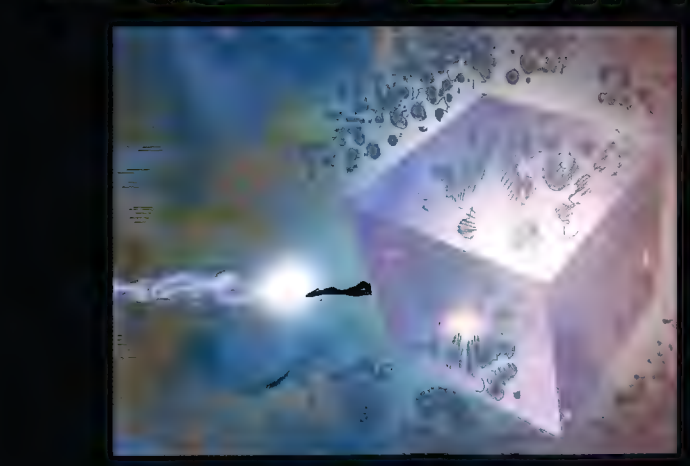
DOOMTECH SERVERS OPEN. FILES LOADING.
OH.

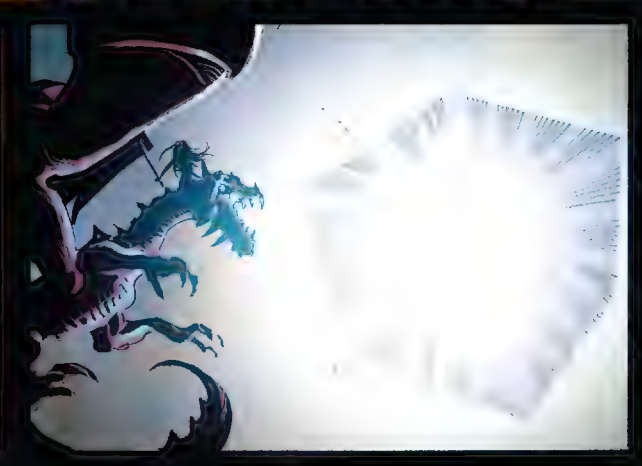
DOOMTECH TIMECUBE SCHEMATICS AND ASSORTED FILES. LOADED.
IT'S A CUBE. IT'S A TIME CUBE.
THE DESTINATION IS PRESET. YOU NEED TO--
YEAH, YEAH, I GOT IT. I SEE.

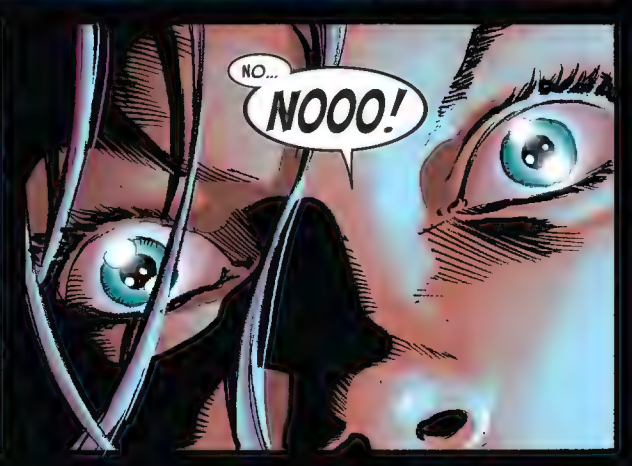
DOOM!

CALCULATIONS DETERMINED.
PROMPT ENGAGE.
CAREFUL. IT IS NOT A TOY.
NO KIDDING.
TIMECUBE ENGAGEMENT READY.

NO...






NO...
NOOO!

THE CASTLE OF MORGANA LE FAY.
690 A.D.
WATERS OF AVALON, SHOW ME VICTOR VON DOOM.
SHOW ME WHERE IN TIME MY BETRAYER HAS HIDDEN FROM ME.
VISTUNI MANANA. VISTUNI ALAGULNAU. VISTUNI CROLONU...
WHAT IS THIS?
WHAT AM I LOOKING--

NO ONE RAISES A HAND AGAINST VICTOR VON DOOM.

DARK AVENGERS/UNCANNY X-MEN: UTOPIA VARIANT BY
JAE LEE & JUNE CHUNG

DARK AVENGERS/UNCANNY X-MEN: UTOPIA
SDCC SKETCH VARIANT BY **JAE LEE**

DARK AVENGERS/UNCANNY X-MEN: UTOPIA VARIANT BY
SIMONE BIANCHI & ANDREA SILVESTRI

UNCANNY X-MEN #513 VARIANT BY
SIMONE BIANCHI, ANDREA SILVESTRI & SIMONE PERUZZI

DARK AVENGERS #4

LATVERIA, CASTLE DOOM, NOW.
MAC, I'M GOING TO KILL YOU FOR THIS!!
YOU GET ME?? YOU'RE DEAD ALREADY!!
CCCAN'T HELP IT!!
THIS ISN'T MEEEARGH!
DON'T CARE!!

GARGAN!
STAND DOWN!
IDIOT!
UH OH! GUYS! CRAZY MAGICAL LADY AT 11 O'CLOCK!
WELL, SHE'LL HAVE TO COME HERE IF SHE WANTS TO KILL ME!
I'VE GOT MY HANDS FULL!
HUURRAAGGH!
AH, DAMN IT!
LIKE I NEED THIS @#$%&!
YOU STAND IN DEFENSE OF VICTOR VON DOOM!
I WILL TAKE NO MERCY ON YOU, WHORE!
WHORE? NICE.
LADY, YOU ARE CRAZY!
AND I HAVE AN M.D. IN PSYCHIATRY...
SO WHEN I SAY YOU'RE CRAZY...
...YOU'RE CRAZY.

AGH!!
WOOSH
YEAH...
INTANGIBLE.
HOW ABOUT YOU?
OKAY.
COME ON, OSBORN, YOU DRAGGED US ALL THE WAY OUT HERE... DO SOMETHING.

THE CASTLE OF MORGAN LE FAY. 690 A.D.
KNIGHT OF THE FUTURE REALM, YOU KNOW DOOM IS ALREADY PLANNING TO BETRAY YOU.
YOU KNOW IT IS HIS NATURE.
YOU KNOW THIS AND YET YOU HELP HIM?
AND WITH EVERY GESTURE OF GOOD WILL YOU OFFER HIM, YOU CUT YOUR OWN THROAT JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE.
LOOK AT YOU. THE TWO OF YOU. ALLIES. COMRADES.
THE KNIGHT AND THE SORCERER.
I KNOW ALL ABOUT YOU TWO. I STUDY MY OPPONENTS.
YOU'RE NOTHING BUT MADMEN IN JESTER COSTUMES.
YOU! OSBORN...
WELL...
THAT'S WHY I HAVE THE ARMOR ON.
FAASSHHOOO

I ALSO STUDY MY OPPONENTS, MORGANA.
AND I FIND YOUR PARANOIA AND MANIA TEDIOUS AND BENEATH ME.
I THOUGHT MORE OF YOU. BUT CLEARLY I WAS PROJECTING MYSELF ONTO YOU.
YOU WILL END ALL OF THIS...RIGHT NOW.
OR WHAT? YOU'LL BETRAY ME? YOU'LL BETRAY ME MORE?
YOU'LL KILL ME? YOU CAN'T KILL ME.
YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T.
YEAH...
WHY CAN'T HE?
BECAUSE HE KNOWS KILLING ME WILL ONLY HURT HIS OWN LIFELINE.
I'M FROM HIS PAST AND FUTURE. IF I DON'T EXIST, IT JEOPARDIZES HIS EXISTENCE.
THAT WE WILL HAVE TO SEE.
PLIVI vatusinama DERELINO.

"VATUSINAMA!"
WHAT LANGUAGE IS--?
NO!!
NO!!
NO, VICTOR, NO!!
DID YOU--?
WHAT DID YOU DO?

SHE WAS RIGHT. I COULD NOT KILL HER HERE. HER ACTIONS AFFECT TOO MANY THINGS.

TO KILL HER IN THE PAST WOULD PUT OUR OWN COURSES IN JEOPARDY.

SOUNDS MORE LIKE YOU DIDN'T WANT TO KILL HER.

BE SILENT.

BUT DIDN'T I SEE HER DIE IN THE FUTURE? IN OUR TIME? DIDN'T THE SENTRY KILL HER?

NO. SHE WAS ALIVE HERE. HER TIME HAS NOT ENDED.

TIME TRAVEL GIVES ME A HEADACHE.

ONLY BECAUSE YOU'RE IGNORANT.

RIGHT. WELL, THEN WHERE IS SHE?

SOMEWHERE SHE CAN'T ATTEMPT TO HURT US ANYMORE.

OH NO...

ENGLAND, ONE MILLION B.C.

THIS IS ALL REAL? THIS IS THE ACTUAL TIME OF KING ARTHUR PENDRAGON?
YES. WE MUST GO.
WE HAVE A LITTLE TIME.
NO. ENOUGH DAMAGE HAS BEEN DONE.
WE GO BACK.
TO EXACTLY THE SAME TIME AND PLACE WE LEFT FROM.
WE--HEY--WE DON'T HAVE TO GO BACK TO THE EXACT MOMENT. WE COULD--
NO.
DON'T WE HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY HERE TO WIGGLE SOME THINGS AROUND?
NO. TRUST MY SUPERIOR EXPERIENCE AND INTELLECT.
NOTHING GOOD COMES OF ABUSE OF THE TIMESTREAM. NOTHING AT ALL.
THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE THE DOCTOR DOOM I--
FOR A MAN WHOSE RISE TO POWER LEANED SO HEAVILY ON THE PRECISE TIMING OF A LUCKY MOMENT...
YOU SHOULD BE HAPPY TO BE EXACTLY WHERE THE FATES HAVE PUT YOU.
OK, WELL, YOU GOT ME WITH THAT ONE.
LET'S GO.
WE ALREADY ARE.

CAN WE LEAVE NOW?
ARES!
THE GOD OF WAR?
THE ACTUAL ONE. AND SHE TURNED HIM TO STONE.
TO STONE?
A TRANSFERENCE SPELL? AND A SLIGHT ONE.
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
THIS IS EASILY REVERSED. WHAT AN ODD CHOICE FOR HER.
AS IN, IF SHE COULD TAKE HIM OUT, WHY WOULDN'T ONE JUST DO IT ALL THE WAY.
ONE WOULD ASSUME SHE FEARED THE WRATH OF THE GODS.
FRATATINI COOTOOMUNU SANA DUUSO.
FRATATINI COOTOOMUNU SANA DUUSO.
FRATATINI COOTOOMUNU SANA DUUSO.

HHUUAARRGHHH!!
HGH...
HGH...
THAT HARPY WENCH OF A HELLBEAST!!!
IS SHE GONE?
SHE'S GONE.
HOW GONE?
SHE'S GONE. IF DOOM SAYS SO.
SHE IS NO LONGER A THREAT. TO US.
GOOD, CAN WE GO NOW?
H.A.M.M.E.R. CONTROL! THIS IS IRON PATRIOT. ON GROUND.
WE READ.
VICTORIA, GOOD. WE NEED TRANSPORT.
WE'RE ALREADY IN YOUR AIRSPACE.
HEY, I'M SORRY ABOUT BEFORE...
SURE YOU ARE.
NO REALLY. THAT WASN'T ME. THE WITCH HAD ME IN SOME KIND OF...
GARGAN, HEY, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. YOU KNOW AND I KNOW...
I'M GOING TO KILL YOU.
ONE DAY, YOU'LL BE DEAD. YOU WON'T EVEN KNOW HOW.
SO...
THE SENTRY... IS JUST GONE?
DEAD?

GUESS SHE GOT HIM.

SORRY, BOB.

I THOUGHT YOU--

DAMN.

I DON'T GET IT. YOU'RE DOCTOR DOOM. *THE* DOCTOR DOOM.

WHAT'S HAPPENED HERE?

I THOUGHT YOU HAD A KINGDOM. I THOUGHT YOU WERE THE--

WHAT YOU SEE HERE--THIS IS THE HANDIWORK OF NICK FURY AND TONY STARK.

WELL, SUCKS TO BE YOU, HERR DOCTOR.

DOOM.

NO ONE'S EVER GOING TO KNOW THIS HAPPENED.

I DO NOT NEED OR REQUIRE YOUR PITY.

NO PITY.

FRANKLY, I JUST CAN'T BE SEEN RUNNING HALFWAY AROUND THE WORLD TO HELP YOU.

YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN FROM NOW ON.

AND *YOU'RE WELCOME!!!*

LET'S GO.

HEY...
HEY.
YOU WERE GREAT OUT THERE, NOR.
NOH.
NOH.
I'M NOT EVEN SURE WHAT WE JUST DID.
WE SAVED THE DAY. WE'RE AVENGERS. YOU WERE GREAT.
I WAS OKAY.
WELL, I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT YOU COULD DO. SO IT WAS A NICE LOOK-SEE.
YOU KNOW, I HAVE A LITTLE KREE IN ME...
WHAT?
MY MOONSTONE. THE SOURCE OF MY POWERS. IT'S KREE IN ORIGIN.
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT. WHERE'D YOU GET IT FROM?
EBAY.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT IS.
IT WAS A JOKE, ALIEN BOY.
NEVER MIND.
GOOD JOB OUT THERE.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, VICTORIA?
WHILE YOU WERE ON YOUR FIELD TRIP, CLINT BARTON TOOK IT PUBLIC.
HOW, EXACTLY.
TAKE A LOOK. TRANSMITTING NOW.
NORMAN OSBORN IS EMPLOYING CRIMINALS...

NORMAN OSBORN IS EMPLOYING CRIMINALS TO DO HIS BLACK OPS DIRTY WORK, RIGHT HERE IN THE UNITED STATES.
THIS CANNOT BE ALLOWED.
THIS NEEDS TO BE LOOKED INTO BY PEOPLE OF AUTHORITY. THIS NEEDS TO BE STOPPED.
CLINT BARTON, WORLD EXCLUSIVE

STOP.
THAT'S ENOUGH.
THERE'S MORE.

DO WE HAVE ANY REQUESTS FROM THE NETWORKS FOR AN INTERVIEW WITH ME?
OH MY GOD! ARE YOU KIDDING ME?
SET SOMETHING UP FOR TONIGHT. SOMETHING FRIENDLY. SOMETHING WHERE I CAN JUST SPEAK.
TONIGHT?
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

SIR, FIRST OFF, ALL OF YOU NEED TO REST. YOU TOLD ME TO HELP YOU NOT BURN THE CANDLE AT BOTH ENDS.
AND SECOND, IF I MAY, IF YOU COMMENT YOU GIVE IT VALIDITY. IF YOU COMMENT--

THIS ISN'T A SCHOOL BULLY.
THE MAN JUST WENT ON NATIONAL TV AND ACCUSED ME OF BEING A PSYCHOTIC MURDERER.
BUT YOU ARE A PSYCHOTIC MURDERER.

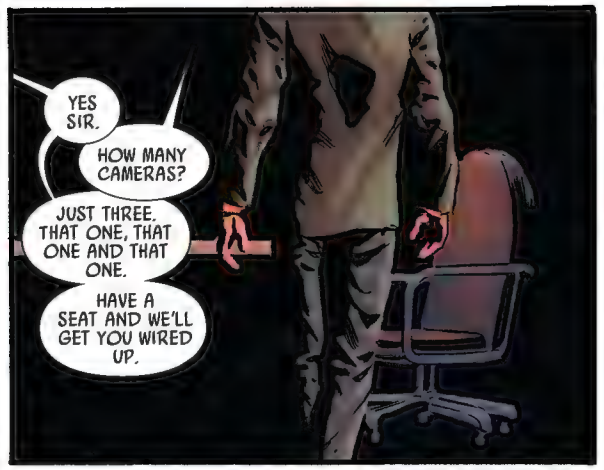
SIT DOWN.
JUST SAYIN'
SIT. DOWN.
HEY...WHAT'S WITH YOUR HAIR ANYHOW?

AGH!

HE'S ALIVE!
OKAY, UH, DOES HE OFFICIALLY SCARE THE CRAP OUT OF ANYONE ELSE?
WHAT IS HE?
BETTER QUESTION: WHEN HE FLIPS OUT ONCE AND FOR ALL, WHAT, IF ANYTHING, COULD KILL HIM?

DARK AVENGERS #5

WHERE DO YOU WANT ME?
OVER HERE?


YES SIR.
HOW MANY CAMERAS?
JUST THREE. THAT ONE, THAT ONE AND THAT ONE.
HAVE A SEAT AND WE'LL GET YOU WIRED UP.

I CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH FOR TAKING THE TIME.
PLEASE.
SO WHEN WILL THIS AIR?
TONIGHT. WE ARE LIVE IN MOST PARTS OF THE COUNTRY.
PLEASE DON'T TOUCH MY HAIR.
YES SIR.

IS THERE ANYTHING OFF LIMITS?
DID YOU GET THE LIST OF QUESTIONS?
I DID.
LET'S JUST STICK TO THAT.
WHEN YOU'RE READY...
I JUST NEED A MOMENT.
SURE.

HOLD ON...

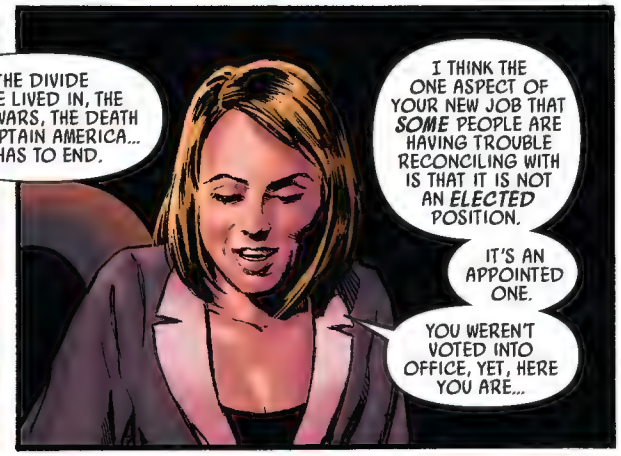
OKAY.

NORMAN OSBORN!
IS HERE WITH US TONIGHT. EXCLUSIVELY.
NORMAN OSBORN!
ALL OF A SUDDEN IT FEELS LIKE THIS IS NORMAN OSBORN'S WORLD AND WE'RE JUST *LIVING* IN IT.
LIVE! EXCLUSIVE! IN STUDIO!

WELL, LET'S HOPE *THAT'S* NOT TRUE. NO.
I'M PROBABLY JUST THE FLAVOR OF THE MONTH.
HEH.
NORMAN OSBORN LIVE

WELL, IT IS AN INCREDIBLE METEORIC RISE TO-- TO POWER? WOULD THAT BE THE WORD YOU'D USE?
CORRESPONDENT SHANNON QUELLER

WELL, A LOT OF *TRUST* HAS BEEN PUT ON ME BUT NOW I HAVE TO GO AND *EARN* THAT TRUST.
EVERY DAY.
BUT THAT'S WHAT THIS COUNTRY *NEEDS*. IT *NEEDS* LEADERS THE PEOPLE CAN TRUST.
THE DIVIDE WE'VE LIVED IN, THE CIVIL WARS, THE DEATH OF CAPTAIN AMERICA... IT HAS TO END.

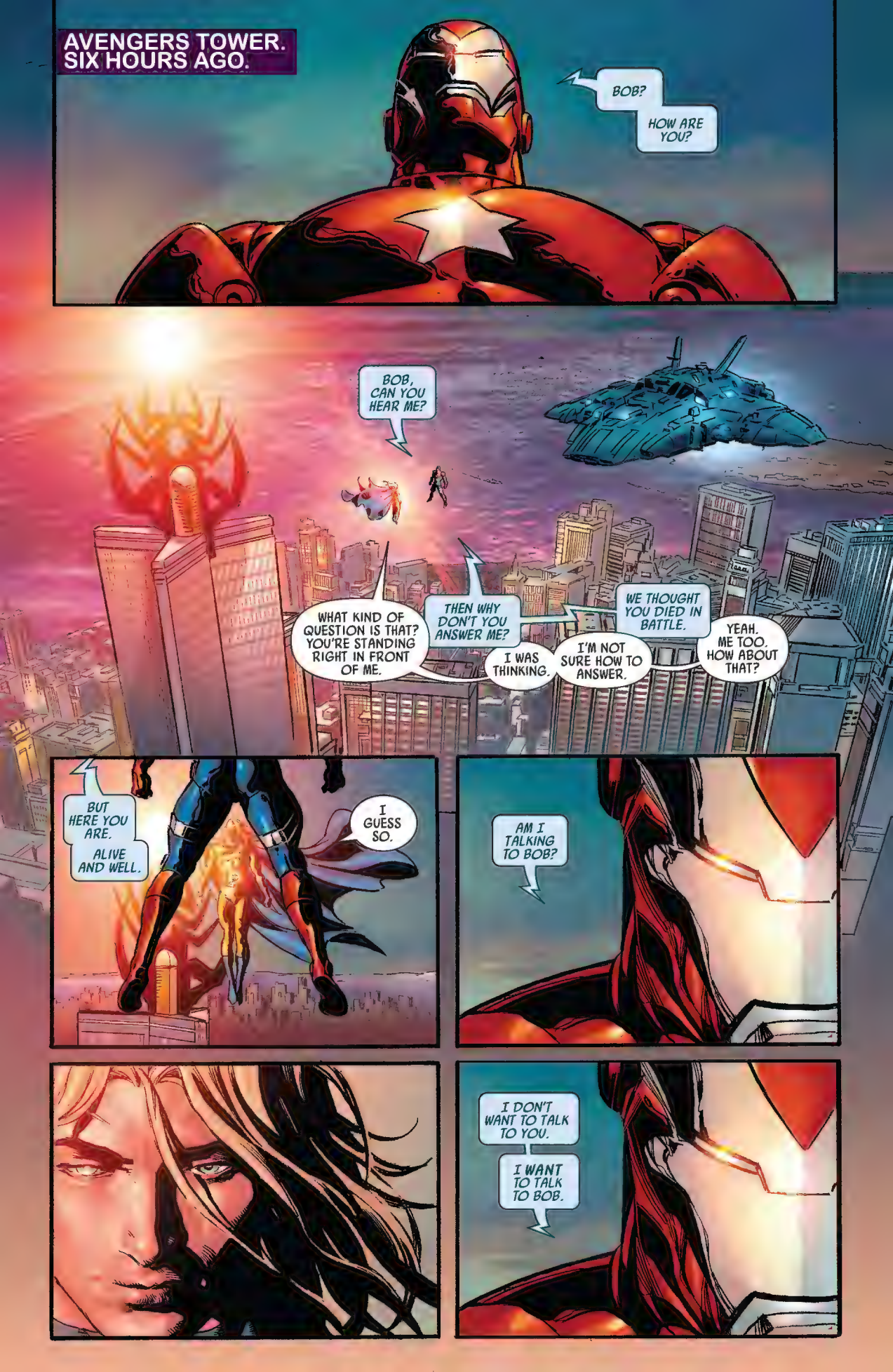

I THINK THE ONE ASPECT OF YOUR NEW JOB THAT *SOME* PEOPLE ARE HAVING TROUBLE RECONCILING WITH IS THAT IT IS NOT AN *ELECTED* POSITION.
IT'S AN APPOINTED ONE.
YOU WEREN'T VOTED INTO OFFICE, YET, HERE YOU ARE...

BUT I WAS APPOINTED *BY* PEOPLE WHO WERE ELECTED INTO OFFICE.
SO I *AM*, BY THAT DEFINITION, THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE.
AND WHAT WE ALL CAN AGREE ON IS THE AMERICAN PEOPLE NEED BETTER AND THEY *DESERVE* BETTER.
THIS COUNTRY. THE PEOPLE IN IT. THEY DESERVE BETTER.
NORMAN OSBORN LIVE

THAT IS WHAT I HAVE BEEN APPOINTED TO DO.

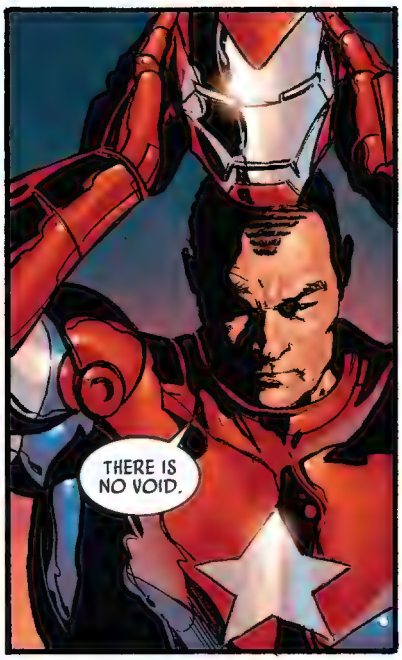
GIVE THE COUNTRY WHAT IT DESERVES.
YOU SEE, EVEN IN MY SHORT TIME IN PUBLIC SERVICE...

...YOU WOULD NOT BELIEVE THE AMAZING PEOPLE I HAVE COME IN CONTACT WITH...


AVENGERS TOWER. SIX HOURS AGO.
BOB?
HOW ARE YOU?
BOB, CAN YOU HEAR ME?
WHAT KIND OF QUESTION IS THAT? YOU'RE STANDING RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME.
THEN WHY DON'T YOU ANSWER ME?
I WAS THINKING.
I'M NOT SURE HOW TO ANSWER.
WE THOUGHT YOU DIED IN BATTLE.
YEAH. ME TOO. HOW ABOUT THAT?
BUT HERE YOU ARE. ALIVE AND WELL.
I GUESS SO.
AM I TALKING TO BOB?
I DON'T WANT TO TALK TO YOU.
I WANT TO TALK TO BOB.

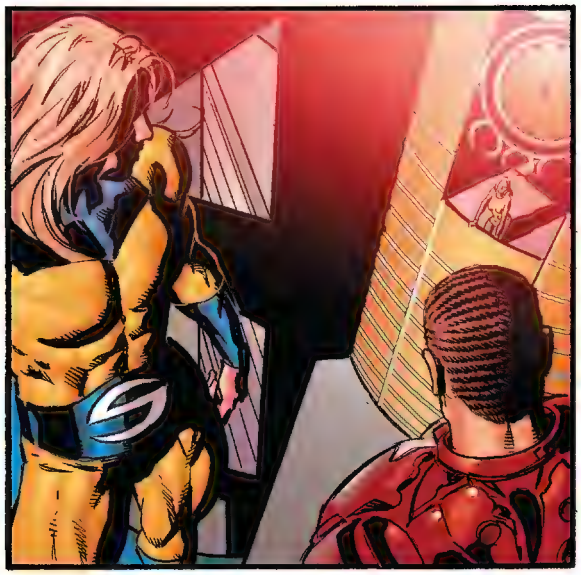
I'M BOB.
I DON'T THINK YOU ARE RIGHT NOW.
WHO AM I?
YOU'RE NOT THE VOID.
NO?
BECAUSE THERE IS NO VOID.
YIKES.
"THERE IS NO DANA, ONLY ZUUL."
SH.
BOB, THIS IS WHY PEOPLE ARE SCARED OF YOU.
IT'S THIS STUFF. JUST LIKE THIS.
BOB YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH A LOT.
IF YOU NEED TO GO SOMEWHERE AND PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER--I'LL TAKE YOU SOMEWHERE.
DID I DIE? BACK IN LATERVIA. DID I?
NO.
IS THIS HEAVEN OR HELL?
BOB. THERE IS NO VOID.
HOW AM I ALIVE?

THAT'S--THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION. BUT OBVIOUSLY YOUR POWER IS GREATER THAN EITHER OF US EVEN KNOW.
AND WE NEED TO LOOK INTO IT, BOB. WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND IT.
AND WE CAN ONLY DO THAT IF YOU GET A HOLD OF YOURSELF.
I DIED.
YOU DIDN'T.
BUT IF YOU HAD, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IN BATTLE. A HERO. A GOOD WAY TO GO.
BUT YOU DIDN'T. YOU'RE RIGHT HERE.
THERE IS NO VOID, BOB.
NNN...
UH OH.


THERE IS NO VOID.

I KNOW...

THEN SAY IT WITH ME. BOB REYNOLDS. SAY IT.
BOB.
SAY IT WITH ME.



LINDY.
THAT'S RIGHT. IT'S YOUR WIFE. BOB'S WIFE.
LET'S GO, SAY HI. LETS GO RELAX AND TALK.

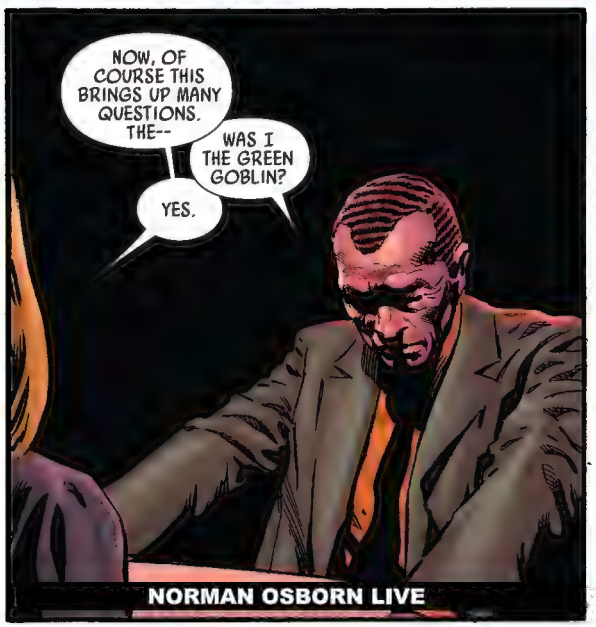
WOOF.
WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH HIM?
I ASK MYSELF THAT QUESTION EVERY DAY.
ABOUT YOU.
"OKAY, NOW, I HAVE TO ASK YOU...
"CLINT BARTON. HAWKEYE..."

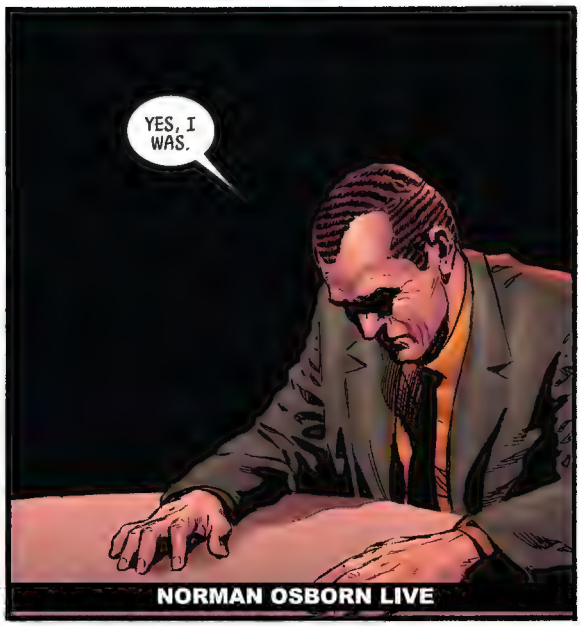
HE WENT ON TELEVISION...
THIS IS WHAT I HEAR.
AND MADE SOME DAMNING ACCUSATIONS.
YES, HE DID.
WE HAVE A CLIP.
OH, GOOD.

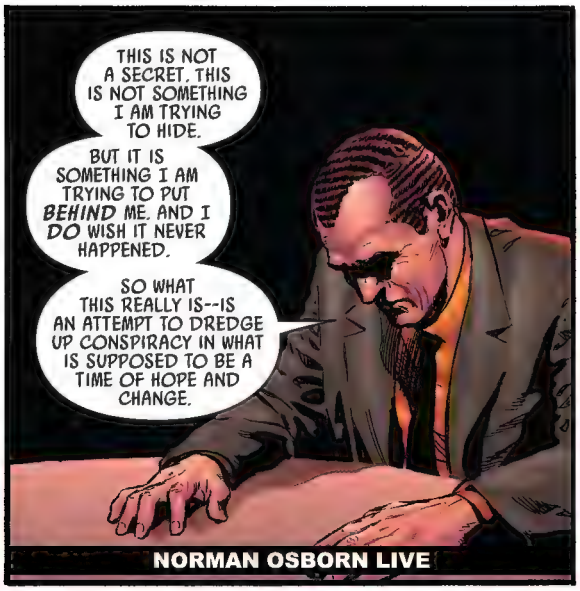
NORMAN OSBORN IS A CRIMINAL SOCIOPATH.
MOST PEOPLE DON'T EVEN KNOW, OR SEEM TO HAVE FORGOTTEN, BUT HE USED TO BE THE MURDERER KNOWN AS THE GREEN GOBLIN.
HE WENT TO JAIL AND A MENTAL INSTITUTION BECAUSE OF THIS.
HAWKEYE COMES CLEAN, WORLD EXCLUSIVE

I BRING THIS UP BECAUSE SOMEHOW ALL THIS IS BEING GLOSSED OVER BY THE MEDIA SO HE CAN TAKE TONY STARK AND NICK FURY'S OLD JOB.
THE FACT THAT THIS IS BEING GLOSSED OVER IS ONE OF THE MOST INSANE THINGS I HAVE EVER SEEN.
AND THOSE AVENGERS OF HIS... THOSE CHARACTERS DRESSED AS AVENGERS WHOSE SECRET IDENTITIES ARE BEING KEPT UNDER WRAPS AS A POINT OF "NATIONAL SECURITY..."
CLINT BARTON, WORLD EXCLUSIVE

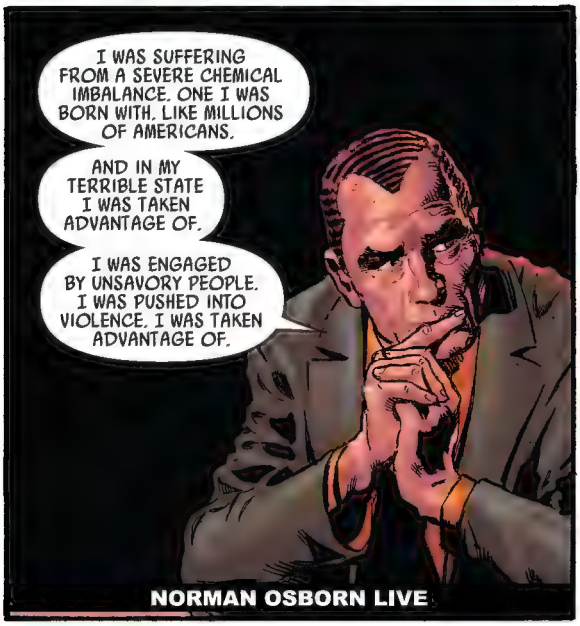
THOSE ARE CRIMINALS AS WELL. FELONS. KNOWN ASSASSINS AND MURDERERS.
THEY AREN'T AVENGERS. THEY AREN'T HEROES.
CLINT BARTON, WORLD EXCLUSIVE

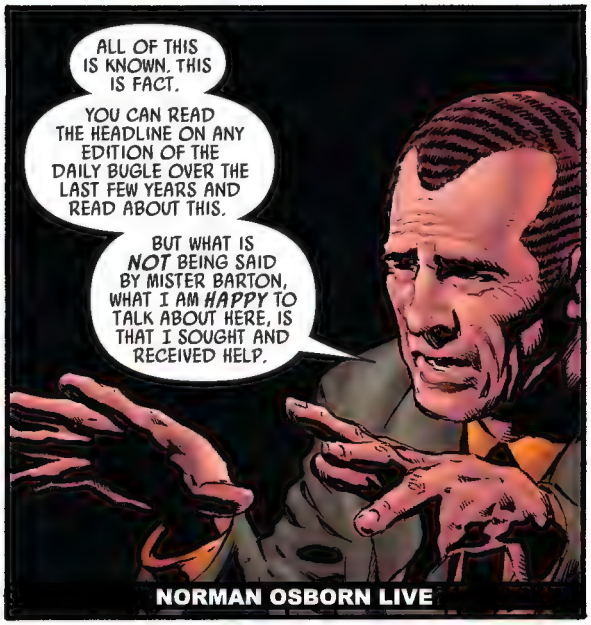

NOW, OF COURSE THIS BRINGS UP MANY QUESTIONS. THE--
WAS I THE GREEN GOBLIN?
YES.
NORMAN OSBORN LIVE

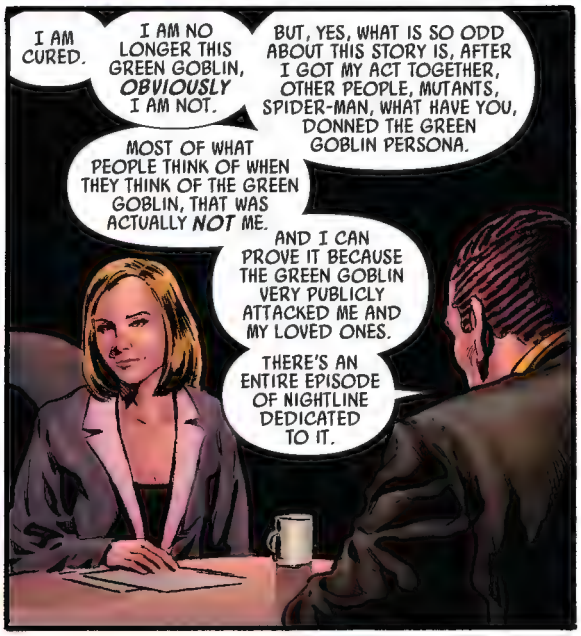

YES, I WAS.
NORMAN OSBORN LIVE


THIS IS NOT A SECRET. THIS IS NOT SOMETHING I AM TRYING TO HIDE.
BUT IT IS SOMETHING I AM TRYING TO PUT BEHIND ME. AND I DO WISH IT NEVER HAPPENED.
SO WHAT THIS REALLY IS--IS AN ATTEMPT TO DREDGE UP CONSPIRACY IN WHAT IS SUPPOSED TO BE A TIME OF HOPE AND CHANGE.
NORMAN OSBORN LIVE

WHY IS CLINT BARTON DOING THIS? I DON'T KNOW. I DON'T KNOW THE MAN.
BUT WHAT IS IMPORTANT, VERY IMPORTANT, FOR THE PEOPLE AT HOME TO KNOW IS THAT I WAS A VERY ILL MAN.
I WAS NOT OF, AS THEY SAY, SOUND MIND AND BODY...
FILE FOOTAGE


I WAS SUFFERING FROM A SEVERE CHEMICAL IMBALANCE. ONE I WAS BORN WITH. LIKE MILLIONS OF AMERICANS.
AND IN MY TERRIBLE STATE I WAS TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF.
I WAS ENGAGED BY UNSAVORY PEOPLE. I WAS PUSHED INTO VIOLENCE. I WAS TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF.
NORMAN OSBORN LIVE


ALL OF THIS IS KNOWN. THIS IS FACT.
YOU CAN READ THE HEADLINE ON ANY EDITION OF THE DAILY BUGLE OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS AND READ ABOUT THIS.
BUT WHAT IS NOT BEING SAID BY MISTER BARTON, WHAT I AM HAPPY TO TALK ABOUT HERE, IS THAT I SOUGHT AND RECEIVED HELP.
NORMAN OSBORN LIVE


I AM CURED.
I AM NO LONGER THIS GREEN GOBLIN, OBVIOUSLY I AM NOT.
BUT, YES, WHAT IS SO ODD ABOUT THIS STORY IS, AFTER I GOT MY ACT TOGETHER, OTHER PEOPLE, MUTANTS, SPIDER-MAN, WHAT HAVE YOU, DONNED THE GREEN GOBLIN PERSONA.
MOST OF WHAT PEOPLE THINK OF WHEN THEY THINK OF THE GREEN GOBLIN, THAT WAS ACTUALLY NOT ME.
AND I CAN PROVE IT BECAUSE THE GREEN GOBLIN VERY PUBLICLY ATTACKED ME AND MY LOVED ONES.
THERE'S AN ENTIRE EPISODE OF NIGHTLINE DEDICATED TO IT.

AS YOU SEE NOW, I AM A WELL MAN.
I HAVE SIGNED DOCUMENTS BY NOBEL PRIZE-WINNING DOCTORS TO BACK THAT UP. I AM WELL.
AND REALLY, DO YOU THINK FOR A SECOND THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF WOULD ALLOW A MURDEROUS COSTUMED MANIAC TO LEAD AN IMPORTANT INITIATIVE IN THIS, THE MOST IMPORTANT TIME IN OUR HISTORY?
FILE FOOTAGE

AVENGERS TOWER. FIVE HOURS AGO.

"I'LL ANSWER FOR YOU. THE ANSWER IS NO."

AVENGERS.

IT'S TIME FOR YOUR MEDS.

MS. HAND, I JUST WANT TO SAY...

GARGAN, JUST TAKE YOUR PILL.

I WANT TO SAY THAT BULLSEYE THREATENED ME.

GROW UP.

HE THREATENED TO *KILL* ME.

WHAT'S *HAPPENED* TO YOU? HOW MUCH MEDICINE DO THEY HAVE YOU *ON?*

HE--HE THREATENED--

I DON'T KNOW *WHAT* HE IS TALKING ABOUT.

TAKE YOUR PILL.

I *TOLD* YOU IT WAS AN ACCIDENT!

YOU BIT MY SHOULDER OFF, SPIDER-BOY, YOU DON'T GET TO--

IT WAS AN *ACCIDENT!!*

YOU AVENGERS, YOU LISTEN TO ME! *YOU LISTEN!*

UP UNTIL NOW, IT MATTERED *NOT* WHAT KIND OF MEN YOU WERE...

BUT NOW THE GODS HAVE CHOSEN *YOU*, AND YOU, *AND* YOU TO LEAD. TO FIGHT. TOGETHER.

AYE! ALL OF YOU!

FROM *THIS* MOMENT ON, IF YOU CHOOSE TO ACT AS A *CHILD...THAT* IS WHAT YOU WILL BE!

AND I WILL *SPANK* YOU LIKE A CHILD!

BUT ACT AS *MEN*, AS *NOBLE* MEN, AND *THAT* IS WHAT YOU WILL BE TREATED AS.

AYE?

AYE!

SMACK

AYE.

WHAT YOU WERE THEN--DID IT MAKE YOU A WHOLE MAN?

YOU--

YOU TAKE THIS CHANCE. YOU BE THE MAN YOU'VE ALWAYS DREAMED OF BEING.

BE THAT MAN.

YOU DON'T HIT ME.

I *SLAPPED* YOU.

IF I HIT YOU, YOU'D BE *BROKEN.*

OKAY, THEN.

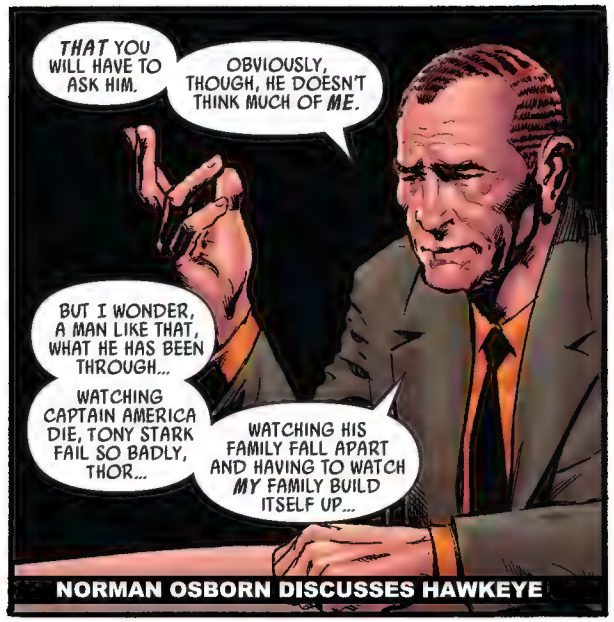
BOYS AND GIRLS, TRY TO GET SOME REST. AND STAY OUT OF EACH OTHER'S WAY.

"BUT YOU CAN SEE THAT WHEN SOMEONE LIKE THE WORLD-FAMOUS HAWKEYE MAKES AN ACCUSATION..."

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE/ HAWKEYE'S FIRST PUBLIC APPEARANCE AS HERO

NORMAN OSBORN REFUTES CRITICS

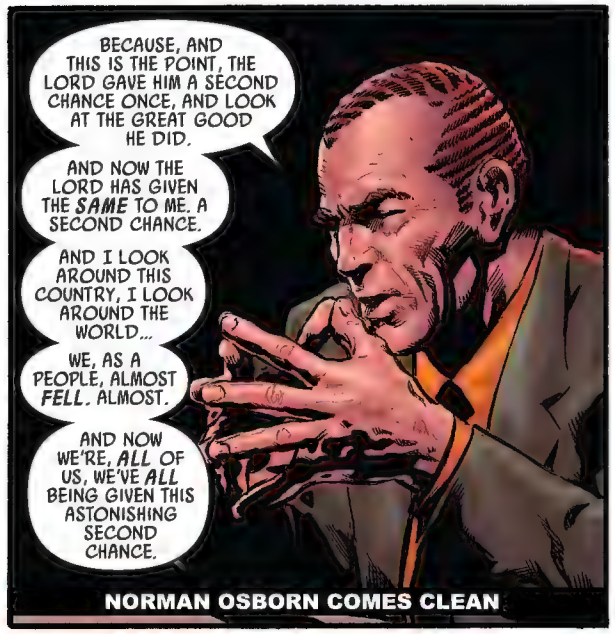
NORMAN OSBORN REFUTES CRITICS



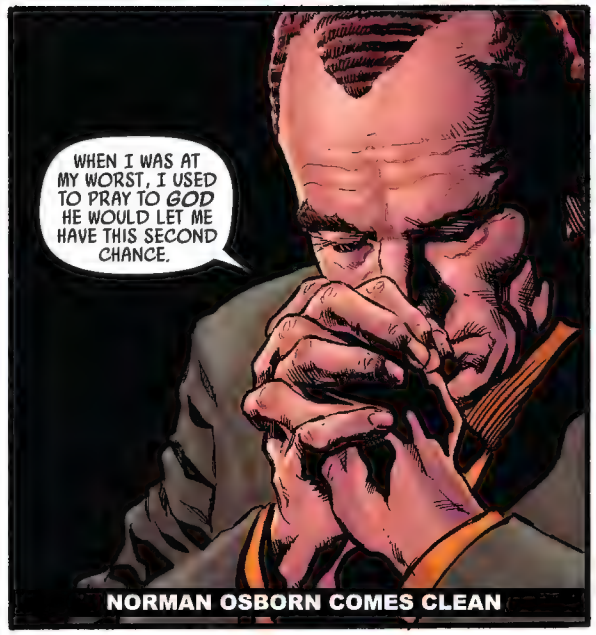
NORMAN OSBORN DISCUSSES HAWKEYE

FILE FOOTAGE. HAWKEYE AT LARGE

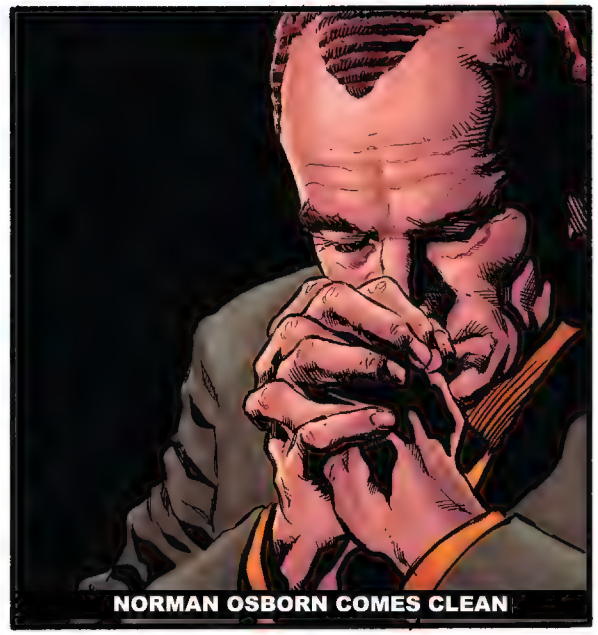
FACTOID: CLINT BARTON WAS GOLIATH



NORMAN OSBORN COMES CLEAN



NORMAN OSBORN COMES CLEAN



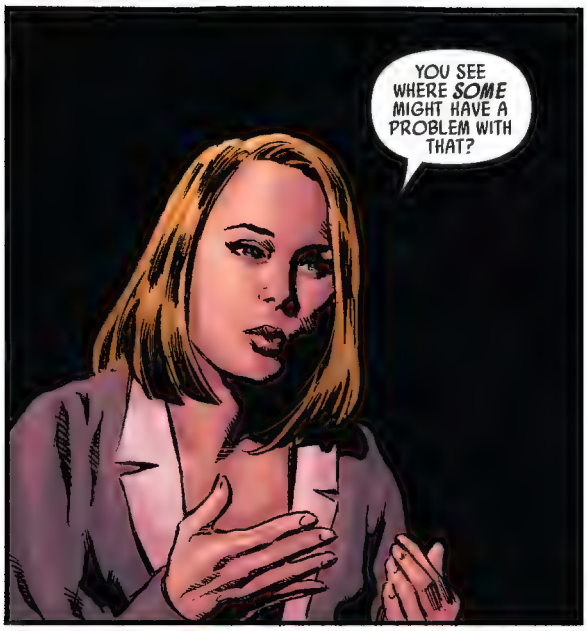
NORMAN OSBORN COMES CLEAN

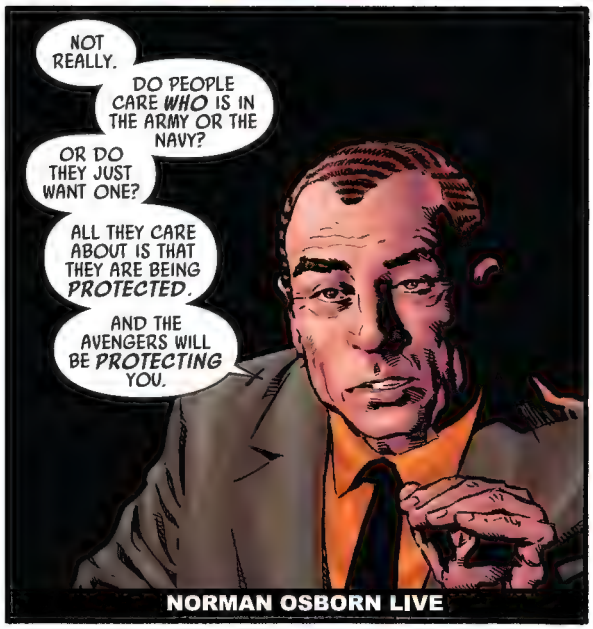
NORMAN OSBORN COMES CLEAN

THE BRONX.
THREE HOURS AGO.
ENGRAVING & AWARDS
OPTICAL
ALEXANDER!
BOY!
BOY?
TRUANCY NOTICE:
IMMEDIATE ATTENTION
"LET'S TALK ABOUT EXACTLY WHO THESE AVENGERS OF YOURS ARE... "

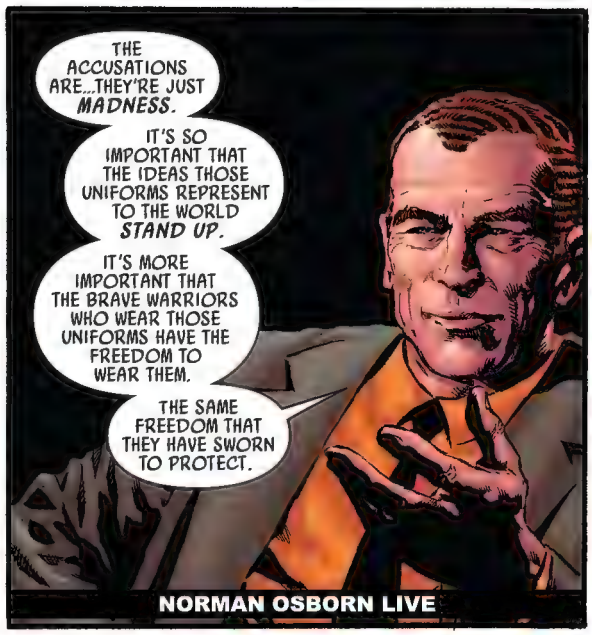
YOU PUT TOGETHER THIS TEAM. YOUR TEAM.
YOU SURPRISED THE WORLD WITH IT.
BUT WHO ARE THEY?
FILE FOOTAGE/ AVENGERS TOWER/ THE OSBORN AVENGERS

THAT...I'M NOT GOING TO TELL YOU.
NORMAN OSBORN LIVE


YOU SEE WHERE SOME MIGHT HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THAT?


NOT REALLY.
DO PEOPLE CARE WHO IS IN THE ARMY OR THE NAVY?
OR DO THEY JUST WANT ONE?
ALL THEY CARE ABOUT IS THAT THEY ARE BEING PROTECTED.
AND THE AVENGERS WILL BE PROTECTING YOU.
NORMAN OSBORN LIVE

BUT WITH THE ACCUSATIONS LAID BEFORE YOU...
NORMAN OSBORN LIVE


THE ACCUSATIONS ARE...THEY'RE JUST MADNESS.
IT'S SO IMPORTANT THAT THE IDEAS THOSE UNIFORMS REPRESENT TO THE WORLD STAND UP.
IT'S MORE IMPORTANT THAT THE BRAVE WARRIORS WHO WEAR THOSE UNIFORMS HAVE THE FREEDOM TO WEAR THEM.
THE SAME FREEDOM THAT THEY HAVE SWORN TO PROTECT.
NORMAN OSBORN LIVE

"MY AVENGERS HAVE TO BE ABLE TO LIVE THEIR LIVES TOO..."
HEY...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?
NOTHING.
COME IN HERE THEN.

LOS ANGELES. NOW.
AND ALL OF A SUDDEN SHE STARTS SCREAMING AT ME.
WHAT WAS SHE SAYING?
SHE WAS JUST YELLING: NO, NO, NO NO!!
WOW.
I KNOW.
AND ALL OF A SUDDEN I'M LIKE, BIG DIRECTOR OR NOT, I'M NOT LISTENING TO THIS FOR TWO MORE SECONDS. SO I TOLD HER:
I'M NOT ONE OF YOUR LITTLE CHORUS LINE DANCERS, LADY.
OH MY GOD, YOU SAID THAT?
HEY, TOOK YOU LONG ENOUGH.
SORRY SIR, BUSY NIGHT.
YEAH? FOR YOU OR FOR ME?
UGH!! WHAT THE HELL?
SPASH
WHAT WAS THAT?
DID YOU DO THAT?!!
I JUST GOT SOAKED!!!
DO WHAT?
DID YOU SPIT ON MY--
AIIE!
SPASSHH

KRAFOOM
OH MAN...OH MAN...
DID YOU SEE--
SHHAMMMM
NNN... GOD!!
HELP ME!!

COMICS
TODAY
SALE
TOYS
POSTERS

YOU'RE-- YOU'RE THE FIRST HUMAN GIRL I'VE EVER--
YEAH??
IS THAT HOW HUMANS USUALLY--?
SURE.
I'M NOT SURE HOW I FEEL ABOUT THAT.

OH MY GOD! I ALMOST FORGOT!
WHAT??
NORMAN ON TV. THIS I HAVE TO SEE!
WHY?

I'M DYING TO SEE HOW NORMAN SELLS THE FACT THAT HE PUT TOGETHER A TEAM OF PSYCHOTIC CRIMINALS AND MURDERERS AND CALLS THEM AVENGERS.

HE PUT TOGETHER WHAT?

WHAT?
YOU SAID HE PUT TOGETHER WHAT?
SSHHH!! HE'S GOING TO LIE ABOUT BEING THE GREEN GOBLIN.

WAIT, YOU'RE ALL CRIMINALS? I THOUGHT--
JUST LIKE YOU, RIGHT?
HA!! LOOK AT THAT. HE'S SUCH A TOOL.

WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM--
A NEWS UPDATE NEWS FLASH!
INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM?

AND THAT'S WHAT THE AVENGERS FRANCHISE MEANS. NOT ONLY TO THE COUNTRY, BUT TO THE WORLD.
AND SEE, WHAT I LOVE ABOUT AMERICA IS THAT--
HOLD ON.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

WE'VE BEEN PREEMPTED. SOMETHING IS GOING ON IN L.A.
CAN WE SEE IT? CAN YOU PUT IT UP ON THE MONITORS?

WHOA.

VICTORIA. WELL, WAKE UP. GET 'EM UP AND READY.
AVENGERS... YOU KNOW.
GET THEM TOGETHER.

DARK AVENGERS #7 VARIANT BY
SIMONE BIANCHI, ANDREA SILVESTRI & SIMONE PERUZZI

UNCANNY X-MEN #514 VARIANT BY
SIMONE BIANCHI, ANDREA SILVESTRI & SIMONE PERUZZI

UNCANNY X-MEN #514 70TH ANNIVERSARY FRAME VARIANT BY
HARVEY TOLIBAO & RAIN BEREDO

DARK AVENGERS #8 70TH ANNIVERSARY FRAME VARIANT BY
MIKE DEODATO JR. & RAIN BEREDO

DARK AVENGERS #6

AVENGERS TOWER.
NEW YORK CITY.
WHY HAVE YOU SUMMONED ME, OSBORN?

THE CABAL.
SIT DOWN NAMOR.
OKAY, HERE'S WHAT'S GOING ON.
A FEW HOURS AGO, WHAT WE BELIEVE TO BE ATLANTEAN TERRORISTS ATTACKED THE WEST COAST.
LOS ANGELES. MELROSE TO BE EXACT.
AND THOUGH I CERTAINLY UNDERSTAND ONE'S DESIRE TO ATTACK THAT PART OF THE COUNTRY, I CAN'T HAVE THAT HAPPENING UNDER MY WATCH.
I KNOW NOTHING OF THIS.
MAYBE SO...BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN IT DIDN'T HAPPEN.
ATLANTIS IS NO MORE...YOUR PEOPLE HAVE SPREAD OUT...
YOUR SLEEPER AGENTS ARE FLITTERING AROUND THE UNDERSEA WORLD WITH NO ONE TO REPORT TO...
YES.
WE KNEW SOMETHING LIKE THIS WAS BOUND TO HAPPEN.
AND IT'S HAPPENED.
SHOW ME.
I NEED TO SEE.
CAN'T JUST TAKE MY WORD FOR IT?
HERE.

THANK OUR FRIENDS AT GOOGLE EARTH FOR THIS SPECTACULAR FOOTAGE.
AND OUR OLD FRIENDS AT WHAT WAS S.H.I.E.L.D. FOR COMMANDEERING THE FOOTAGE.
CAN YOU TRANSLATE WHAT THEY ARE SAYING?
"DEATH TO THE SURFACE WORLD." "THIS WORLD ISN'T YOURS."
ETC.
ETC.
SO WE CAN ALL AGREE THIS *WAS* A TERRORIST ATTACK, PRINCE NAMOR.
LIVES WERE LOST AND I HAVE TO ACT.

BECAUSE I TOLD YOU TO.
LISTEN VERY CAREFULLY, HUMAN...
THE FACT THAT I EVEN ALLOW YOU TO SPEAK DIRECTLY TO ME IS A GIFT I BESTOW UPON YOU.
YOU DO NOT ORDER ME.
YOU BEG FOR MY APPRECIATION AND THEN WAIT TO SEE IF I CHOOSE TO BESTOW IT UPON YOU.

CUT THE CRAP, NAMOR.
YOU HAVE NO KINGDOM.
YOU NEED THIS TO HELP REBUILD YOUR EMPIRE.
THESE ARE TERRORISTS. COLD-BLOODED, MURDERING TERRORISTS.
IT SHOULDN'T BE ALL THAT BENEATH YOU TO DENOUNCE THEM.

WHAT MIGHT SEEM LIKE TERRORISM TO YOU WOULD SEEM LIKE SHARP RETALIATION FOR THE PUNISHING BEHAVIOR OF YOU SURFACE WORLDERS...
...WHOSE EVERY ACTION AND EVERY BREATH IS AN ACT OF DESTRUCTION AGAINST THIS ENTIRE PLANET.

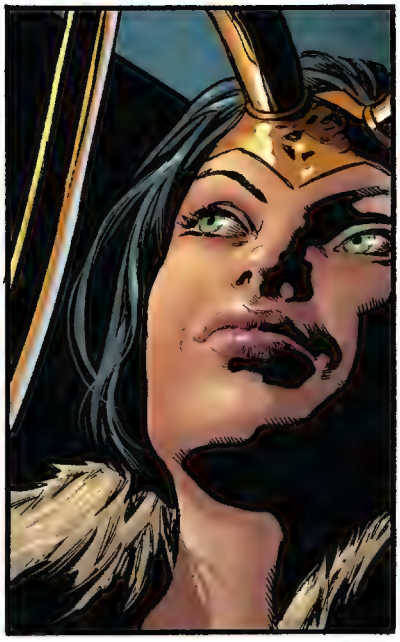
A PLANET YOU DO NOT OWN. A PLANET YOU SHARE BECAUSE WE ALLOW YOU TO SHARE IT.
ATLANTIS IS NO MORE BECAUSE THE SURFACE WORLD DESTROYED IT.

AND THE FACT THAT I HAVEN'T DROPPED A TIDAL WAVE ON THE UNITED STATES IN RETALIATION IS, IN MY OPINION, AN ACT OF UNIMAGINABLE PATIENCE AND CHARACTER.
SO NO, I WILL NOT HELP YOU AND I WILL NOT BE YOUR DANCING MONKEY.
AND IF YOU AND I NEED TO DO BATTLE ABOUT THIS, LET IT BE NOW.

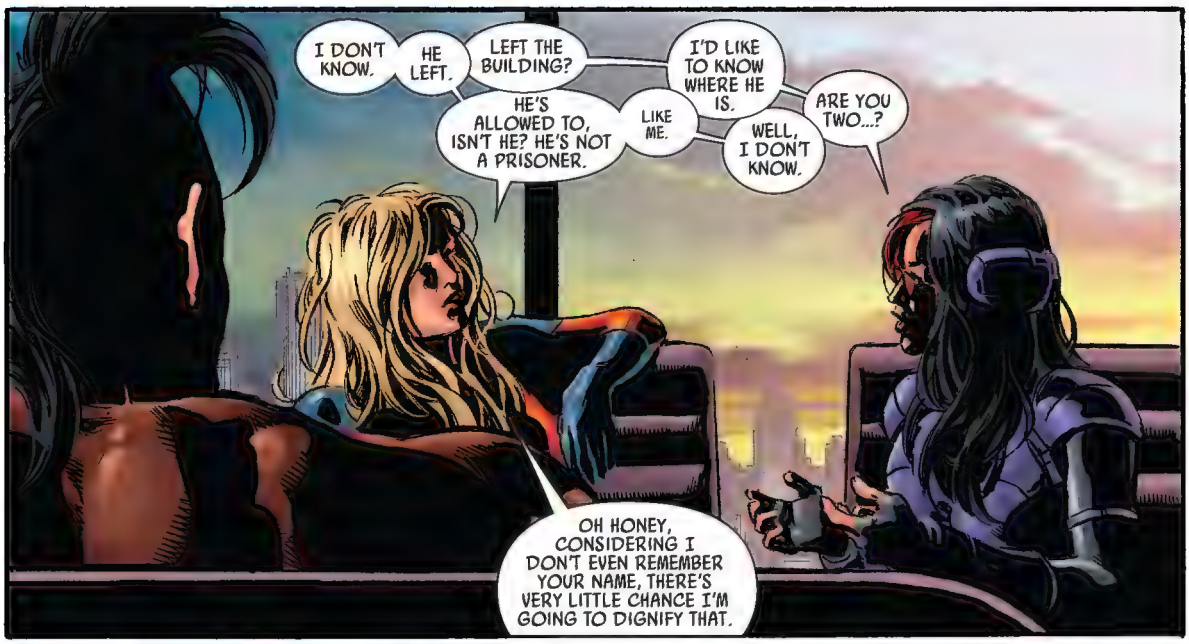
YOU SEE, NAMOR, THIS IS ONE OF THOSE MOMENTS WHERE YOU THINK YOU'RE BEING VERY REGAL...
...BUT IN FACT, YOU ARE BEING IMPOSSIBLY SELF-DESTRUCTIVE.
YOU'RE NOT THINKING ABOUT WHAT I WOULD GIVE TO YOU IN RETURN...

I'D RECONSIDER.

ARE WE DISMISSED?



WELL THIS IS SOME BULL.
WATCH YOUR LANGUAGE, HAWKEYE.
WHY?
BECAUSE I DON'T APPRECIATE IT.
AND I DON'T APPRECIATE BEING UP THIS @#$ EARLY.
TRUST ME, SWEETPANTS, YOU DON'T WANT ME CRANKY.
DULY NOTED, HAWKEYE.
WHERE'S NOH-VARR?
WHO?
THE ALIEN? THE KREE? MARVEL BOY? CAPTAIN MARVEL?
OH, UH, I DON'T KNOW.
HE'S REALLY AN ALIEN?
I THOUGHT THAT WAS FOR SHOW.
COULD SOMEONE GO WAKE HIM?
HE WASN'T IN HIS ROOM.
WHERE WAS HE?
NOT IN HIS ROOM.
WHERE IS HE?
I WOULDN'T KNOW.
YOU'RE THE LAST ONE TO SEE HIM ALIVE.
BE STILL, PSYCHO.
WHERE IS HE?


I DON'T KNOW.
HE LEFT.
LEFT THE BUILDING?
I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHERE HE IS.
ARE YOU TWO...?
HE'S ALLOWED TO, ISN'T HE? HE'S NOT A PRISONER.
LIKE ME.
WELL, I DON'T KNOW.
OH HONEY, CONSIDERING I DON'T EVEN REMEMBER YOUR NAME, THERE'S VERY LITTLE CHANCE I'M GOING TO DIGNIFY THAT.

MY NAME IS VICTORIA HAND.
WELL, I'M YOUR BOSS.
WELL, YOU'VE MADE LITTLE TO NO IMPRESSION ON ME.
WITH THE POWER TO LOCK YOU UP... FOREVER.
IMPRESSED YET?

IS THIS EVERYONE?

ARES IS COMING IN FROM THE BRONX...
I WANT ARES LIVING IN THE BUILDING.
HE REFUSES.
THAT'S NOT SUFFICIENT.
HE'S THE GOD OF WAR. EXACTLY HOW SHOULD I MAKE HIM?
AND WHERE'S NOH-VARR?
AWOL. NOT HERE.

NOT HERE. NOT HERE.
WELL, WHERE'S THE SENTRY? I NEED THE SENTRY.
I'M HERE.

WHAT DO YOU NEED?

OH GOOD. OKAY.

YOU AND I ARE GOING TO LOS ANGELES RIGHT NOW AND WE'RE GOING TO HUNT THE ATLANTEAN TERRORISTS THAT ATTACKED AMERICAN SOIL.

JUST YOU AND I?

WE'RE THE FIRST WAVE.

THEN WHY THE HELL DID YOU WAKE US UP?

YOU'RE THE SECOND WAVE. BOB AND I CAN BE THERE IN AN HOUR.

I CAN BE THERE SOONER.

REALLY?

DIRECTOR OSBORN, CAN I HAVE A WORD?

NO. I WANT YOU TO LEAD THE QUINJET TEAM. WE'LL BE IN CONSTANT RADIO CONTACT UNTIL--

DIRECTOR OSBORN...

I'D LIKE A WORD.

WHAT *IS* IT, VICTORIA?

YOU'RE NOT GOING.

I'M SORRY?

ON THIS MISSION, ONE OF MY JOBS IS TO KEEP AN EYE ON YOU. YOU HAVEN'T SLEPT SINCE YOU ROSE TO POWER.

VICTORIA...

YOU'RE COMING APART AT THE SEAMS.

TAKE A MINUTE. THINK ABOUT IT. YOU KNOW I'M RIGHT.

YOU'RE GOING TO CRASH AND BURN IF YOU DO THIS THIS WAY, AND THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE WAITING FOR YOU TO DO JUST THAT.

YOU HIRED ME TO HELP YOU SEE YOUR AGENDA, YOUR VISION.

LET ME HELP YOU.

YOU NEED TO DELEGATE SOME OF THESE THINGS AND THERE IS NOTHING YOU CAN DO ON THIS MISSION THAT THE SENTRY CAN'T DO FASTER.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SILENT AFFIRMATION OF MY RIGHTNESS.

WE'LL SEND THE SENTRY AS FIRST WAVE.

LET'S SEE IF WE EVEN NEED A SECOND WAVE...

OKAY.

OKAY?

OKAY.

GOOD.

VERY GOOD.

BOB...

GO GET 'EM.

DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M ASKING?
I CAN DO THIS.
I KNOW. BUT I'M ASKING YOU TO AVENGE THE INNOCENT BYSTANDERS THAT WERE KILLED.
I'M ASKING YOU TO EXACT GOD'S WRATH ON THEM.
YOU WANT ME TO KILL THEM?
ALL OF THEM.
EXCEPT FOR ONE.
CAN YOU DO THAT?
I--I DON'T KNOW.
I'M NOT ASKING YOU, BOB. I'M ASKING HIM. WE NEED HIM FOR THIS.

YOU--YOU WANT TO TALK TO HIM?
IS HE THERE?
HE?
I WANT TO TALK TO HIM. IS HE THERE?
HE ALWAYS IS.
I TOLD YOU THAT.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO ANYTHING, BOB.
WE NEED HIM FOR THIS.
WE NEED THE HAND OF GOD TO SMITE THESE BASTARDS TO HELL.
YOU SAID THERE WAS NO VOID.
KILL THEM.
ALL BUT ONE.

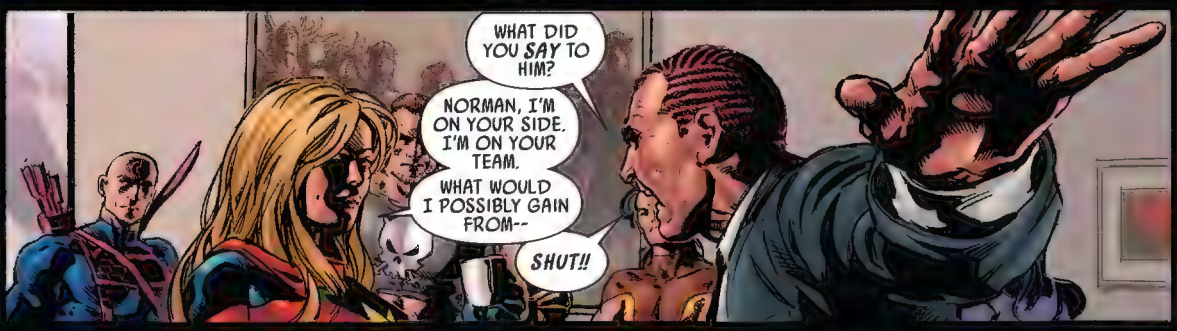
GOING TO OCEANIC DEPTHS THAT THE NAVY SEALS WERE NOT ABLE TO, THE AVENGER KNOWN AS THE SENTRY TOOK ON THE ATLANTEAN TERRORIST CELL HEAD ON.
THE DETAILS OF THE CONFRONTATION ARE BEING HELD SECRET FOR NATIONAL SECURITY PURPOSES...
BUT IN A STATEMENT RELEASED BY H.A.M.M.E.R., UPON THE SENTRY'S ENGAGEMENT AGAINST THE TERRORISTS, THEY UNLEASHED A SUICIDE BOMB KILLING THEMSELVES.
EARLY REPORTS SAY EVERY MEMBER OF THE CELL HAS DIED EXCEPT ONE SURVIVOR WHO IS NOW IN THE CUSTODY OF H.A.M.M.E.R. OFFICIALS.
THE CAPTURED ATLANTEAN WILL NOW BE GIVEN DUE PROCESS AND QUESTIONED FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE ATTACK AND ANY FURTHER THREAT THAT MAY BE COMING AT US.
W JONES BOUNCES HIGH- THE OSBORN EFFECT... WHO IS CAPTAIN AMERICA?... WHERE IS
THANK YOU, MISTER PRESIDENT.
YES. NO, IT COULD NOT HAVE GONE ANY BETTER.
I WILL RELAY YOUR MESSAGE.
WELL, SIR, I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO, BUT BOB ISN'T A HANDSHAKE AND A WAVE TYPE OF GUY.
YES, I WILL. YES. WELL, I THINK WE ALL DESERVED A BIG WIN.
YES.
THE TERRORIST PRISONER? WHERE IS HE?
WELL, WE HAVE TOP MEN WORKING ON THAT RIGHT NOW.
I'LL LET YOU KNOW WHAT WE FIND.
IN YA GO, FISHY!
CLANG

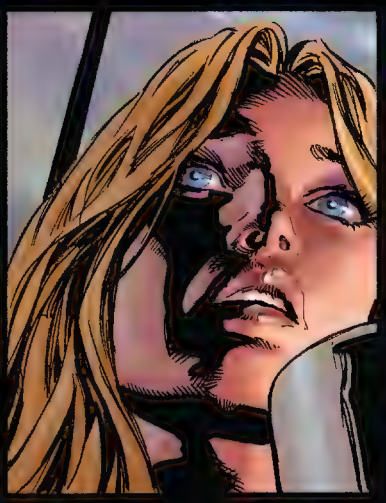
HEY...
AAIIEEEAAGGHH!
CRUNCH
CRACKKLLEE
HMM.
TASTES LIKE SUSHI.

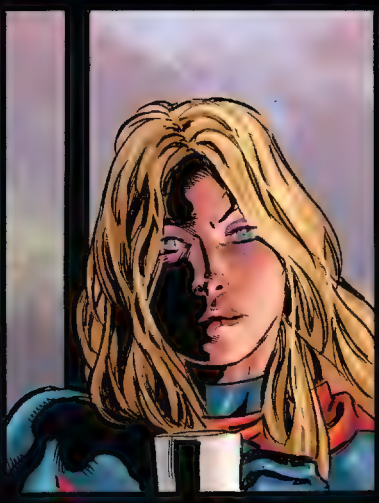
HOY!
SHH! HE'S ON THE PHONE.
HMM? THE MUTANT SITUATION? YES SIR, I HAVE MY EYE ON IT.
BUT WE'RE GOING TO NEED PROPER FUNDING.
OKAY. THANK YOU.

PINHEAD.

ENJOYING YOUR TEA?
YES I AM.
WHERE'S MY SPACE ALIEN?
YOUR SPACE ALIEN?
WHERE IS HE?
I REALLY DON'T KNOW.


WHAT DID YOU SAY TO HIM?
NORMAN, I'M ON YOUR SIDE. I'M ON YOUR TEAM.
WHAT WOULD I POSSIBLY GAIN FROM--
SHUT!!





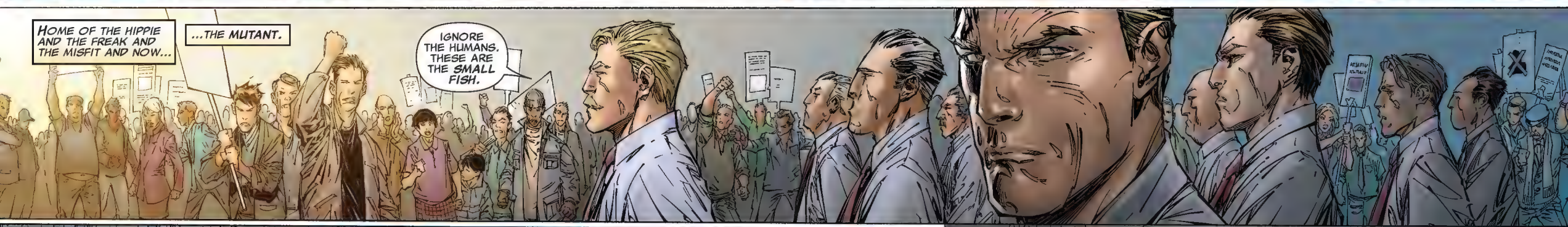
OSBORN, NORMAN.
WELCOME.
NGUH...
NNNO...
I'M IN CHARGE.
ME. NOT YOU.
ME.
I'M IN CHARGE.

OH NORMAN...
NORMAN NORMAN...
STOP KIDDING YOURSELF.
I'M HERE.
I'M ALWAYS HERE.

DARK AVENGERS/UNCANNY X-MEN: UTOPIA
"UTOPIA PART 1"

WHEN HE THINKS OF ALL THE THINGS HE'S ACCOMPLISHED, SIMON TRASK CAN'T HELP BUT SMILE.
HE'S CONNECTED, OF COURSE, SO THAT HELPED-- BUT AT THE END OF THE DAY HIS ACHIEVEMENTS ARE A DIRECT OUTGROWTH OF HIS WILL. OF HIS VISION. OF THIS VISION:
SAVE THE CHILDREN
ADAM & EVE NOT ATOM &
"PROTECTING CHILDREN. PROTECTING OUR SCHOOLS, OUR TOWNS.
"PROTECTING EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE FROM GROTESQUE CATASTROPHE.
"PEOPLE PROTECTING PEOPLE."
THAT'S IT. THAT'S ALL HE WANTS.
"THE LAST TIME A MUTANT WAS BORN, AN ENTIRE TOWN WAS RAZED BY CHAOS AND VIOLENCE.
"AND ALL WE NEED TO DO TO MAKE SURE IT NEVER HAPPENS AGAIN IS TO GENTLY AND HUMANELY LEGISLATE WHEN AND HOW MUTANTS ARE ALLOWED TO BREED."
WHEN HE PUTS IT THAT WAY...WHO COULD POSSIBLY BE AGAINST HIM?
THEY STARTED MARCHING IN SACRAMENTO WITH THAT SIMPLE MESSAGE.
AND TODAY, FINALLY, SIMON TRASK, AND HIS HUMANITY NOW! COALITION MARCH ON...

SAN FRANCISCO, CA:
MARKET ST.
bloomingdale's
UTOPIA
PART 1


HOME OF THE HIPPIE AND THE FREAK AND THE MISFIT AND NOW...
...THE MUTANT.
IGNORE THE HUMANS. THESE ARE THE SMALL FISH.

SAVE THE CHILD
HOMOSAPIENS FIRST
PRO X NOW
PRO X NOW
AH.
HERE WE GO, CHILDREN. FACE FRONT, TRUE BELIEVERS.

IT'S SHOWTIME.

DR. HENRY McCOY--BEAST. AGILE. VAGUELY FELINE. COMPASSIONATE.
THERE ARE MULTIPLE ROUTES YOU CAN CHOOSE TO GET FROM HERE TO CITY HALL.
ALL OF WHICH WILL REQUIRE GOING AROUND US.
HATE CRIME
MUTANTS ARE
TRASK
RIGHT FOR MUTAN

WE'RE EXERCISING OUR FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS TO FREE SPEECH AND PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY. YOU HAVE NO LEGAL GROUNDS UPON WHICH TO PREVENT OUR PASSAGE.
WE'VE NO INTEREST IN STIFLING ANY OF YOUR RIGHTS, MR. TRASK. IN FACT, WE'RE HERE TO EXERCISE OUR OWN.

JEAN-PAUL BEAUBIER--NORTHSTAR. STRONG. FAST. CANADIAN.
SPEW ALL THE HATE YOU WANT--
--YOUR CAUSE WILL FIND NO SUPPORT HERE.
WEIRDO!
MUTIE!
FREAK!

NOW NOW, FRIENDS. NO REASON TO GET THE ACLU INVOLVED. WE MUSN'T EXERCISE HATE-SPEAK.
WE'RE ALL ADULTS HERE.
...SURELY COOL HEADS WILL PREVAIL.

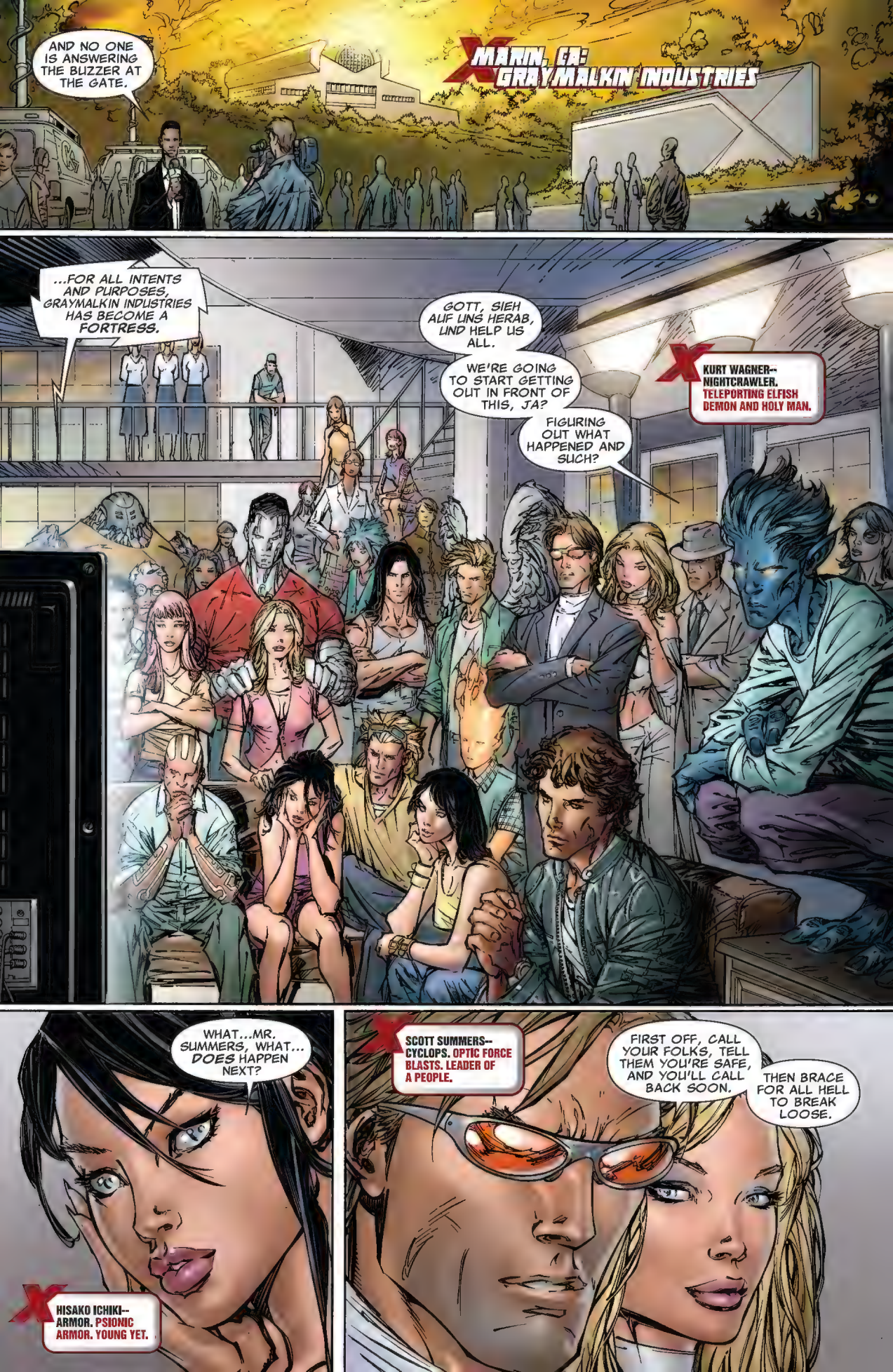
MUTANTS ARE PEOPLE TOO!
GUYS, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS.
NO TO PROP X
SHUT UP, PIXIE. WE GOT THESE RACISTS.
MEGAN GWYNN--PIXIE LIKE A THING UNTO A PIXIE. ALSO TELEPORTS.
JULIAN KELLER--HELLION. TELEKINETIC. ANGER ISSUES.

GET BACK TO YOUR CAVES, APEMAN!
THESE STREETS BELONG TO THE FUTURE!
PROTECT MUTANT
SAVE THE CHILDREN
YOU WANT TO START SOMETHING, FREAK SHOW?!?
ABOMINATION!
JULIAN-- PIXIE, WAIT, NO--
--KIDS, STAY BACK, STAY BACK--
BE CAREFUL! THEY'RE IN IT TOGETHER!
MY GOD-- THE MUTANTS HAVE CUT US OFF!
WE'RE SURROUNDED.
"PEOPLE PROTECTING PEOPLE.
"AGAINST THIS."

PEOPLE, NO--!
MEGAN--!!
--REPEAT. ALL UNITS, ALL UNITS, REPORTS OF A RIOT ERUPTING AT MARKET AND POWELL--
--X-MEN REPORTED ON SCENE--
--CORRECTION X-MEN REPORTED AT SCENE--THEY'RE A PART OF THE RIOT SO BE CAREFUL, FOLKS--
S.F.P.D

LATE-BREAKING REPORTS OF A RIOT BREAKING OUT IN DOWNTOWN SAN FRANCISCO--
--STREET, CABLE CAR, AND B.A.R.T. TRAFFIC SHUT DOWN--
--MUTANTS REPORTED ON-SCENE AND ACTIVELY RIOTING--
--WHAT SO-CALLED "MUTANT POWERS" OR WHAT LEVEL OF DAMAGE THEY MIGHT CAUSE--
--NO COMMENT FROM CITY HALL OR--
--SIMON TRASK AND THE HUMANITY NOW! COALITION--
--COMPLETING THEIR SO-CALLED MARCH FOR HUMANITY THAT BEGAN EARLIER THIS WEEK IN SACRAMENTO--
ICE
--EMERGENCY ROOM AT ST. FRANCIS PUT ON ALERT--
--PERMITS AND PERMISSIONS WERE ON FILE WITH THE CITY AND--
REPORTS OF X-MEN ON THE SCENE ARE ALSO UNCONFIRMED.

OF COURSE VIOLENCE WAS INEVITABLE.
TRASK AND HIS--HIS "COALITION"--SPEW RACIST, SPECIESIST HATE AND--
TRASK?!? YOU'RE TRYING TO PIN THIS ON TRASK?
HOW MANY THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE ARE WITH HIM? HOW MANY VIOLENT OUTBREAKS HAVE HAPPENED BETWEEN THE START OF THEIR MARCH AND TODAY?
HUMANITY NOW! MARCHED IN COMPLETE AND TOTAL PEACE FOR HUNDREDS OF MILES AND MET THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE.
NOT A PUNCH GOT THROWN. BUT THE SECOND THEY CROSSED THE BRIDGE...
...THE WHOLE CITY SEEMINGLY WENT CRAZY TODAY AS RIOTS--
AND WHERE THE HELL ARE THE X-MEN?
--TRASK RECEIVED MEDICAL TREATMENT AT ST. FRANCIS WHERE--
--CAN SAY DEFINITIVELY THAT THE X-MEN HAVE NOT REACHED OUT TO THE PRESS IN ANY WAY, NO ONE HAS COME IN OR OUT--
5


MARIN, CA: GRAYMALKIN INDUSTRIES
AND NO ONE IS ANSWERING THE BUZZER AT THE GATE.
...FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES, GRAYMALKIN INDUSTRIES HAS BECOME A FORTRESS.
GOTT, SIEH ALIF UNS HERAB, UND HELP US ALL.
WE'RE GOING TO START GETTING OUT IN FRONT OF THIS, JA?
FIGURING OUT WHAT HAPPENED AND SUCH?
KURT WAGNER-- NIGHTCRAWLER. TELEPORTING ELFISH DEMON AND HOLY MAN.
WHAT...MR. SUMMERS, WHAT... DOES HAPPEN NEXT?
HISAKO ICHIKI-- ARMOR. PSIONIC ARMOR. YOUNG YET.
SCOTT SUMMERS-- CYCLOPS. OPTIC FORCE BLASTS. LEADER OF A PEOPLE.
FIRST OFF, CALL YOUR FOLKS, TELL THEM YOU'RE SAFE, AND YOU'LL CALL BACK SOON.
THEN BRACE FOR ALL HELL TO BREAK LOOSE.

SAN FRANCISCO, CA: CITY HALL
WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED OUT THERE TODAY?
WHY WEREN'T YOU ON SITE? WHY DIDN'T YOU CONTROL THIS?
HANK McCOY, SUMMERS. IN THE STREETS.
FOUR--FIVE OF YOUR KIDS SHOW UP STOMPING PEOPLE?
LIVE AT FIVE HAS FOOTAGE OF TRASK GETTING BEATEN UP BY ONE OF YOUR STUDENTS...
FIRST OFF, I WASN'T OUT THERE BECAUSE QUITE FRANKLY I DIDN'T KNOW, AND SECOND--
--I'M NOT PRESIDENT OF MUTANTKIND AND I'M NOBODY'S KING, AND JUST BECAUSE I ASK 'EM TO, NOT EVERY MUTANT IN THE WORLD WILL DO WHAT I SAY, SADIE.
IT'S MAYOR SINCLAIR WHEN I'M YELLING AT YOU.
YOU HAVE TO GET ON TOP OF THIS, SCOTT. YOU HAVE TO SET YOUR PEOPLE--
--HIS "PEOPLE"? HOW DARE YOU.
EMMA.
EMMA FROST—THE WHITE QUEEN. PSYCHIC POWERHOUSE. FILLED WITH SECRETS.
YOU LIVE IN THE BIG HOUSE, SCOTT, YOU MOW THE BIG LAWN.
I KNOW YOU DIDN'T INCITE THIS MESS, BUT WHEN NIGHT FALLS, YOU HAVE TO BE OUT THERE KEEPING PEOPLE CALM--
OF COURSE, OF COURSE. WE NEED HANK BACK, AND FAST, IF YOU CAN EXPEDITE--
MAYOR SINCLAIR!
TRASK HAS CALLED A PRESS CONFERENCE--

SAN FRANCISCO, CA:
ST. FRANCIS HOSPITAL
WE SHALL NOT BE INTIMIDATED, AND WE SHALL NOT BE STOPPED.
WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO ASSEMBLE PEACEFULLY. WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO HAVE OUR VOICES HEARD.
THAT WE WERE ATTACKED IS THE PRICE WE MUST SOMETIMES PAY...
...WHEN WE DARE STAND UP FOR FREEDOM AND SAFETY AND THE OTHER INALIENABLE HUMAN RIGHTS THAT MAKE THIS THE GREATEST NATION ON EARTH.
WE'RE MARCHING ON CITY HALL AS IS OUR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT.
EVERY LIVING MUTANT WITH POWERS IS LIKE HAVING A LOADED GUN POINTED AT OUR HEADS, BUT WE WILL NOT LIVE IN FEAR.
THIS JUST IN FROM SFO WHERE H.A.M.M.E.R. DIRECTOR NORMAN OSBORN HAS JUST ARRIVED, ADDING FUEL TO THE FIRE OF RUMORS THAT LAW ENFORCEMENT IN SAN FRANCISCO IS ABOUT TO BE FEDERALIZED--
WELL THERE IT IS.
THINGS ARE ABOUT TO GET UGLY, SCOTT.

WAKANDA:
--TENSIONS SKYROCKETING IN SAN FRANCISCO--
NEW YORK CITY:
HEY, MAN, IF YOU NEED TO GO--
SNIKT!
TRANSDIMENSIONAL WARP VESSEL QUADRA ORBITING SOL-909:
--ANTI-MUTANT SENTIMENT AT AN ALL-TIME HIGH--
WHY DO PEOPLE HATE MUTANTS, MOM?
DOES THAT MEAN THEY HATE ME?
LATVERIA:
WELL THEN. HERE'S TO THINGS FINALLY GETTING INTERESTING.
INDEED.

SAN FRANCISCO, CA
THE CASTRO:
NIGHT FALLS AND TEMPERS FLARE.
PEOPLE TAKE TO THE STREETS.
THEY'RE NOT OUT AS SUPER HEROES OR SUPER VILLAINS OR SUPER-ANYTHING.
THEY'RE OUT IN THE STREETS TONIGHT BECAUSE A MILLION PEOPLE SHOWED UP IN THEIR HOMETOWN DEMANDING LAWS BE PASSED THAT FORBIDS THEM TO HAVE BABIES.
SOME OF THEM ARE HERE TO DO MORE THAN JUST CHANT.
SOME OF THEM ARE HERE TO SCREAM.
--MOVE--
SOME OF THEM ARE HERE TO FIGHT.
DIE, MUTIES!

IN THE END, FEAR IS THE WATCHWORD FOR THE DAY.
TERRIFIED PEOPLE, SURROUNDED BY THE POTENTIAL FOR VIOLENCE, ARM THEMSELVES IN THE NAME OF PROTECTION...
MATCH. GET THE FIRES.
AND THEN SUCCUMB TO FEAR AND LASH OUT.
Y'THINK?
THE MADNESS OF CROWDS REIGNS SUPREME.
IT'S TOO LATE--
THIS WHOLE CITY'S GOING TO ERUPT.
THE CASTRO STREET THEATER IS THE NIGHT'S FIRST CASUALTY.

NOB HILL:
NOT SO FAST.
TELEGRAPH HILL:
STOP THEM!
LIM-- HOW?
WHERE IS MS. FROST?!? SOMEBODY DO SOMETHING!
HAYES VALLEY:
CALM DOWN, SON.
--WE'RE GONNA BE IN CAMPS NEXT--
PIOTR RASPUTIN-- COLOSSUS. ORGANIC METAL. COLOSSAL.
THE EMBARCADERO:
CONTRARY TO WHAT YOU BEEN TOLD YOUR WHOLE LIFE--
--YOU AIN'T A COP! GET OUTTA OUR WAY!

I'VE BEEN BEATING YOU UP SINCE I WAS A TEENAGER, TOAD.
I'LL STOP WHENEVER YOU'RE READY TO STOP BEING THE MOST USELESS CRETIN ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH.
GOOD ONE
MISTER
PHOEBE, MINDEE, AND CELESTE—THE STEPFORD CUCKOOS. TELEPATHIC HIVE MIND.
SUMMERS.
DAMMIT, TOYNBEE--
GGTTTHHH
THIS IS THE REAL THING, TOAD. THIS ISN'T THIS STUPID THING WE ALWAYS DO.
THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF THE END AND YOU'RE OUT HERE THROWING GASOLINE ON THE--
SHUT UP!

HUMANITY NOW! HUMANITY NOW!
MISTER SUMMERS, WE
CAN'T KEEP THEM
UNDER CONTROL--!
ALWAYS SUSPECTED THAT'S WHAT PEOPLE WANTED TO DO WHEN I STARTED LECTURING THEM...
JEEZ, BUDDY, YOU OKAY?
WE'VE GOT A MEDICAL STATION UP THE STREET--
I'M FINE.
EVERYBODY'S HEADING TO CITY HALL-- WE'VE GOT ACTION IN ALMOST EVERY NEIGHBORHOOD--
A FEW OUTBREAKS OF VIOLENCE, A FEW FIRES, SOME LOOTING--
IT'S NOT THE VIOLENCE WE CAN'T HANDLE, IT'S THE DAMN SIZE.
NO DISRESPECT, BUT IF IT'S TOO MUCH FOR YOU GUYS TO HANDLE--
WHO'RE THEY GONNA BRING IN TO RESTORE LAW AND ORDER?

THIS CITY HAS LOST ITS DAMN MIND AND SCOTT SUMMERS CAN'T SEEM TO YANK THE LEASH.
SAN FRANCISCO BAY: H.A.M.M.E.R. WEST
SO IT'S TIME FOR MY AVENGERS TO GET TO WORK.
WHY AIN'T YOU SUITED UP, OZZIE? TOO HEAVY FOR YOU OUT THERE? DON'T WANNA GET YOUR CORNROWS MUSSED?
HAWKEYE--AKA BULLSEYE. WORLD'S DEADLIEST ASSASSIN. UNREPENTANT.
IS IT ME, OR ARE YOU TURNING INTO A BIGGER PAIN IN THE ASS EVERY DAY?
SHOW A MODICUM OF RESPECT OR I'LL DOUBLE YOUR MEDS AND THE ONLY THING YOU'LL BE KILLING IS THE TIME BETWEEN YOUR DIAPER CHANGES.
NORMAN OSBORN—AKA IRON PATRIOT. DIRECTOR OF H.A.M.M.E.R. MODIFIED STARK INDUSTRIES WAR SUIT. TEAM LEADER.

YOU'LL EACH BE ASSIGNED DIFFERENT HOT ZONES DYNAMICALLY AS THE SITUATION ON THE GROUND EVOLVES.
SFPD IS THE FIRST WAVE; STANDARD H.A.M.M.E.R. MUSCLE SQUADS ARE NEXT; YOU'RE THE COUP DE GRACE. STANDARD RULES OF ENGAGEMENT APPLY.
ANY COSTUMED MUTANT BREAKING THE LAW--ANY LAW--AND YOU TAKE THEM DOWN AND RESTRAIN THEM UNTIL ARREST.
NO FATALITIES. DON'T FORGET--CAMERAS WILL BE EVERYWHERE.
PSHT.
BOB, YOU'LL HANG BACK WITH ME--
OKAY.
BOB REYNOLDS--THE SENTRY. NEAR OMNIPOTENT AND GODLIKE; SCHIZOPHRENIC.
NO REASON TO LEAD WITH OUR HUMAN H-BOMB, IS THERE?
TONIGHT'S ABOUT KEEPING CIVILIANS SAFE AND STOPPING THE RIOTS. BE PRECISE. BE EFFICIENT.
QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?
IN BETWEEN ALL THE CARNAGE, I REALLY MUST RECOMMEND YOU EAT AT CHEZ PANISSE BEFORE YOU DIE.
I MEAN, I HAD TO KILL THREE PEOPLE TO GET RESERVATIONS. IT'S THAT WONDERFUL.
DAKEN AKIHIRO--WOLVERINE. SON OF WOLVERINE. A MAN OF WEALTH AND TASTE.

THE CASTRO:
LADIES...
YOU'RE NOT DOING THE CAUSE ANY GREAT FAVORS TONIGHT.
THE CAUSE? THE CAUSE?!?
THEY SOLD US OUT AGAIN--HUMANS--
WE WERE--WE WERE PROMISED, DAMMIT. THEY PROMISED US UTOPIA...
AND NOW THIS, WHO CAN BREED AND WHEN, THEY'LL BE KICKING DOWN OUR DOORS NEXT.
THEY'LL NEVER STOP, YOU IDIOTS.
WE WILL ALWAYS BE HUNTED AND TORMENTED AND KILLED AGAIN AND AGAIN.
WE HAVE TO RISE UP--

HOW DESPERATELY TEENAGE YOU SOUND.
DR. KARLA SOFEN— MS. MARVEL. FLIGHT. INVISIBILITY. ENERGY BLASTS.
KILL
YOU'LL KILL US ALL
STOP RIGHT--
KKKKGGG
WE'VE ALL BEEN BUSY IN THE FIELD AND HAVEN'T GOTTEN WORD FROM GRAYMALKIN ABOUT--
ARE THE AVENGERS HERE TO SAVE US?
SURE.
HAVEN'T YOU HEARD?
WE'RE THE GOOD GUYS.

HAYES VALLEY:
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU BEAT ROCKSLIDE UP LIKE THAT--
I CAN. HE ATTACKED ME.
I CAN'T BELIEVE HE GOT SO INTO IT.
I'LL APOLOGIZE WHEN HE WAKES UP.
THE RIOTS. WHAT'S GOING ON?
WE PATROLLED THE PERIMETER--
--ISOLATED RINGLEADERS--
AND HELPED WITH ARRESTS UNTIL--
LADIES.
ONE MOMENT.
SOMETHING'S HERE.

HNNG. ASSAULT AND BATTERY. DESTRUCTION OF PUBLIC PROPERTY. CHILD ENDANGERMENT, PROBABLY.
A
MAC GARGAN—SPIDER-MAN. CONTROLLER OF STRONG SYMBIOTE. CRAZY.
RUN, GIRLS.
AND DON'T LOOK BACK.
STOP IN THE NAME OF THE LAW.

THE EMBARCADERO:
BE READY, GUYS.
AND BE COOL. WE DON'T NEED TO MAKE THIS MESS ANY BIGGER--
HEY!
YOU CAN'T IMPEDE OUR MARCH!
IT'S OUR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT--
@$@% IN' FASCISTS! YOU @#!@IN' PIGS!
THE EMBARCADERO CENTER IS PRIVATE PROPERTY.
TAKE THE SURFACE STREETS AND GO AROUND-- ANY FORM OF TRESPASS IS--
DAMMIT--!!

THAT'S IT--
HEY!!
GO AROUND, HIPPIES.
THAT'S RIGHT. RUN AWAY.
SO MANY DUMBASS PUNKS.
SO LITTLE TIME.
TWO MORE SECONDS AND I WAS GONNA START TASERING EVERYTHING IN A T-SHIRT AND DUMB LITTLE GOATEE.
NICE WORK, GUY.
NICE WORK? YOU SHOULD SEE HOW GOOD I AM WHEN THEY LET ME SHOOT.
I DUNNO HOW YOU GUYS DO IT.
BECAUSE NOT KILLING THEM SUCKS.

TELEGRAPH HILL:
THIS SUCKS.
OH, HERE HE COMES.
THANK GOD.
MR. SUMMERS!
CYCLOPS WHEN WE'RE IN THE FIELD, ONYXX.
RIGHT, RIGHT.
WHAT'S THE SIT-REP, KIDS?
THERE WERE SOME PEOPLE A COUPLE HOURS AGO, BUT MOSTLY THEY JUST BROKE CAR WINDOWS AND SCREAMED AND STUFF.
EVERYBODY'S BEEN GOING TO CITY HALL SO WE'VE JUST BEEN, LIKE, WAITING AROUND HERE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO.
AND WHERE THE HELL IS MS. FROST? ISN'T SHE, LIKE, OUR SUPERVISOR OR SOMETHING?
I DON'T KNOW WHERE EMMA IS.
IF THE ACTION IS AT CITY HALL, WE GO TO CITY HALL.

I DON'T LIKE THIS. AT ALL.
NO, DIRECTOR OSBORN, I DON'T--
NO I'M NOT GOING TO DENY THAT THERE HAVE BEEN INCIDENTS BUT--
THE SFPD ARE DOING A TREMENDOUS JOB--YOU CAN'T--HELLO?
WHAT DID HE SAY?
ASIDE FROM SPEAKING AS THOUGH HE'S THE FINAL WORD ON LAW AND ORDER IN THIS TOWN?
HE SAID THAT HE HAD A MORE IMPORTANT MEETING TO ATTEND, AND THAT A H.A.M.M.E.R. AGENT HAD BEEN DISPATCHED TO OUR LOCATION TO "KEEP IT QUIET."
"AGENT? OR AGENTS?"
"AGENT. SINGULAR."
ARES. THE GOD OF WAR. LITERALLY.

HOLEE--
I AM NOT A MAN IN THE BUSINESS OF REPEATING MYSELF SO I SUGGEST YOU ALL PAY ATTENTION.
THERE IS A LINE BEFORE ME THAT DEMARCATES WHERE YOU STOP BEING TREATED AS CITIZENS AND START BEING TREATED AS SOLDIERS.
IT IS A LINE THAT ONLY I CAN SEE AND I SWEAR UNTO ALL OF YOU--
--ONCE YOU CROSS IT YOU HAVE DECLARED WAR. AGAINST YOUR CITY, AGAINST YOUR GOVERNMENT...AND AGAINST ME.
AND MAKE NO MISTAKE: I LOVE TO FIGHT WARS.
THE TERRIFYING THING? SOMEDAY SOON?
SOMEONE'LL HAVE TO FIGURE OUT A WAY TO BRING THAT MONSTER DOWN.

NORMAN.
I'M NOT A FAN OF BEING KEPT WAITING.
EMMA FROST. HI.
AND I UNDERSTAND ABOUT THE WAIT-- BUT THE MAYOR NEEDED TO BE PUT IN HER PLACE. YOU LOOK FANTASTIC, BY THE WAY.
NOT SCOTTY'S NIGHT, HUH?
SCOTT DOESN'T GET TO CONTROL ALL MUTANT BEHAVIOR BY MANDATE OR FIAT.
THAT'S TOO BAD, BECAUSE THAT'S JUST THE KIND OF LEADER YOU PEOPLE NEED RIGHT NOW.
WHAT'S THAT?
THE PLAN.
WHAT PLAN?
THE NEW PLAN.

OUR DEAL WAS YOU KEEP MUTANTS QUIET AND I KEEP OUT OF YOUR BUSINESS, BUT SCOTTY BOY COULDN'T QUITE MANAGE THAT.
I NEED A TEAM OF MUTANTS AS THE FACE OF LAW AND ORDER. AND THAT MEANS YOUR PEOPLE, PARDON THE EXPRESSION, NEED A LEADER WHO CAN LEAD.
SOMEONE WITH NOT JUST THE SKILL...BUT THE WILL.
OSBORN, THIS--
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT THIS MEANS.
SURE YOU DO. JUST USE YOUR IMAGINATION.
AND THINK VERY, VERY BIG.
OH, MY...

GOOD EVENING, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.
THANK YOU FOR MAKING IT OUT. I APPRECIATE HOW DIFFICULT TRAVEL IS FOR YOU ALL TONIGHT, AND I ASSURE YOU WE WOULDN'T HAVE ASKED IF IT WASN'T IMPORTANT.
"FIRST THINGS FIRST: I'M HERE TO INFORM YOU ALL THAT MARTIAL LAW HAS BEEN DECLARED IN SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND, AND BERKELEY."
LET'S GET DOWN THERE. NOW.
HELP THE COPS AND KEEP TEMPERS LOW.
"AS OF NOW, PEACEKEEPING IN BAY AREA IS UNDER H.A.M.M.E.R. JURISDICTION.
"MUTANT RINGLEADERS ARE BEING DETAINED AND KEPT OFF THE STREETS."
HELL... HELLO?
CAN YOU HEAR ME?
HELLO?

WE'RE CLASSIFYING SCOTT SUMMERS, AS A PERSON OF INTEREST IN THE RIOTING THIS EVENING.
WE'D LIKE TO BRING HIM IN, ASK HIM A FEW QUESTIONS, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY TALK TO HIM ABOUT WHY HE, AS SELF-APPOINTED LEADER OF THE MUTANT RACE, LET HIS PEOPLE DESTROY YOUR CITY TONIGHT.
I HAVE SOMEONE ELSE WITH ME HERE TONIGHT WITH THE SAME QUESTIONS--

DON'T MOVE!
FINGERS TOGETHER BEHIND YOUR HEAD! FINGERS TOGETHER BEHIND YOUR HEAD!
MR. SUMMERS--!

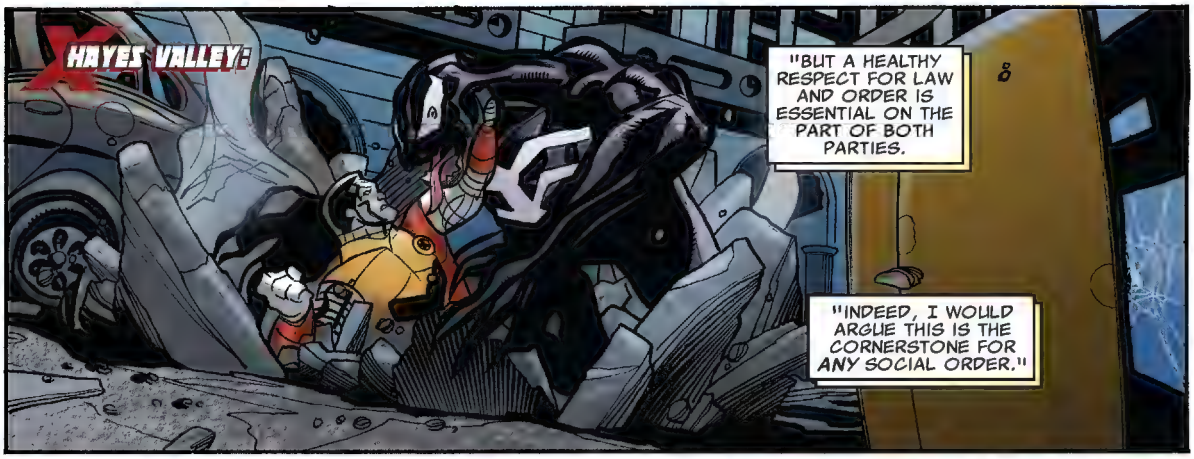
I--I CAN JUST BARELY HEAR--
ARE YOU SPEAKING IN MY HEAD?

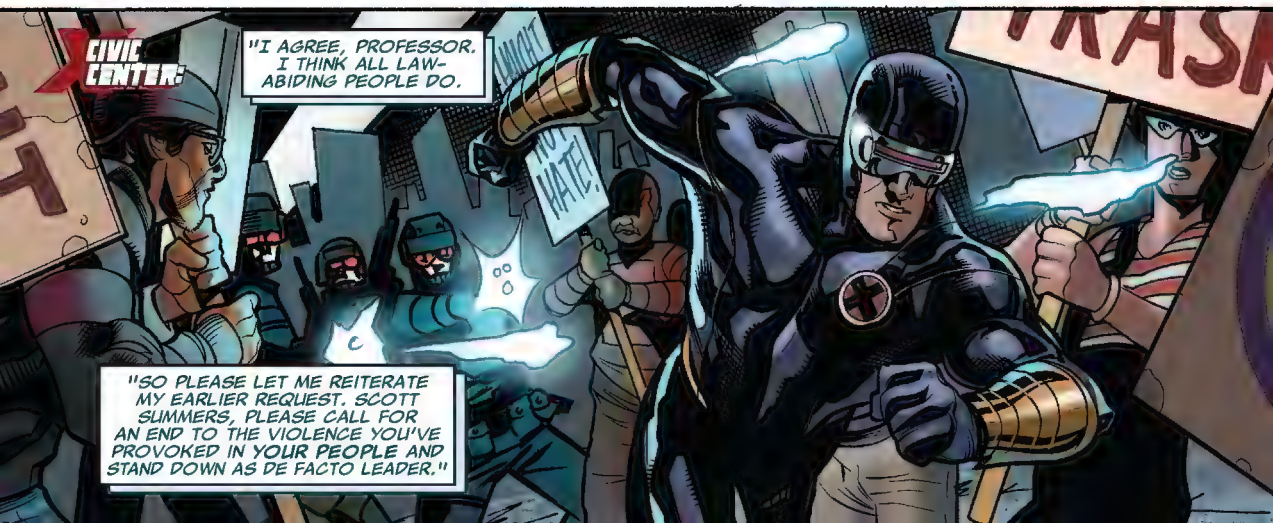
MY NAME IS PROFESSOR CHARLES XAVIER....
...AND I WOULD LIKE TO PUBLICALLY DISTANCE MYSELF, AND THE WORK OF MY SCHOOL, THE XAVIER INSTITUTE FOR GIFTED YOUNGSTERS IN ANY OF ITS PERMUTATIONS, FROM THIS QUITE FRANKLY INSANE COURSE OF ACTION MR. SUMMERS HAS TAKEN.
AND, SCOTT... IF YOU'RE LISTENING...
...TURN YOURSELF IN.
YOU'RE ONLY CAUSING MORE HARM TO OUR KIND BY RUNNING.
NOT MY USUAL COLOR BUT I SUPPOSE IT'LL HAVE TO DO.
IT'S ME, HENRY. IT'S CHARLES XAVIER.
THEY'VE DONE SOMETHING TO MY MIND.
THEY'RE DOING SOMETHING TO US ALL HERE... THEY'RE TAKING AWAY OUR POWERS...

UNCANNY X-MEN #513
"UTOPIA PART 2"

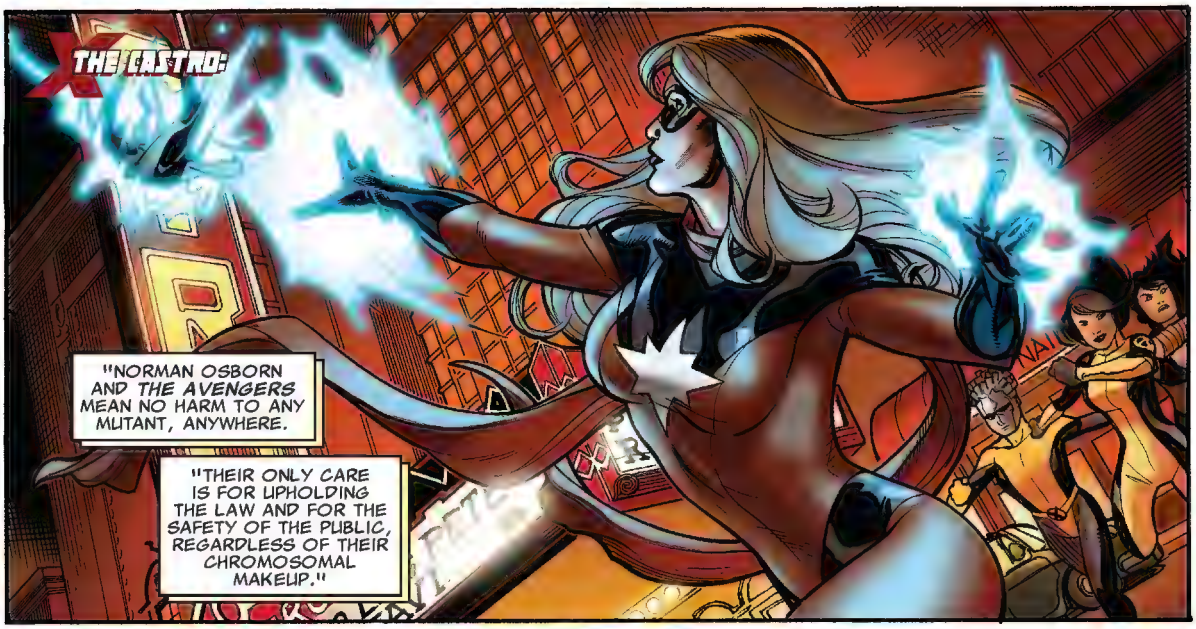
SAN FRANCISCO CITY HALL:
"MUTANT PROBLEMS, MUTANT SOLUTIONS.
"SAN FRANCISCO IS BURNING TONIGHT.
CITY HALL
TRASH OUT OF SF!
"AND IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE. ISN'T THAT RIGHT, PROFESSOR?"
PROP X = HATE CRIME

FISHERMAN'S WHARF:
ABSOLUTELY, DIRECTOR OSBORN.
VIOLENCE WAS NEITHER MY MANDATE NOR MISSION. I BELIEVE HUMANS AND MUTANTS CAN PEACEFULLY COEXIST.


HAYES VALLEY:
"BUT A HEALTHY RESPECT FOR LAW AND ORDER IS ESSENTIAL ON THE PART OF BOTH PARTIES.
"INDEED, I WOULD ARGUE THIS IS THE CORNERSTONE FOR ANY SOCIAL ORDER."

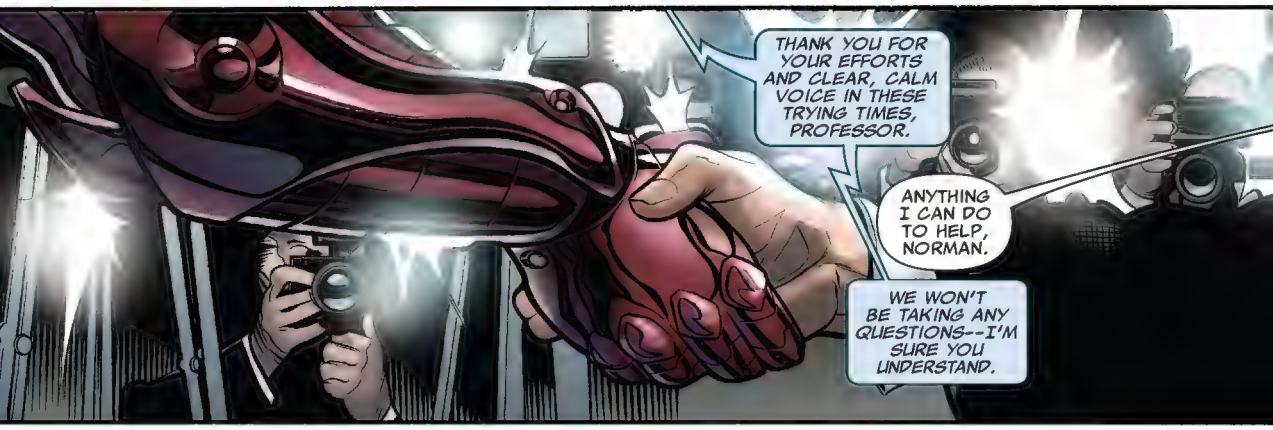

CIVIC CENTER:
"I AGREE, PROFESSOR. I THINK ALL LAW-ABIDING PEOPLE DO.
"SO PLEASE LET ME REITERATE MY EARLIER REQUEST. SCOTT SUMMERS, PLEASE CALL FOR AN END TO THE VIOLENCE YOU'VE PROVOKED IN YOUR PEOPLE AND STAND DOWN AS DE FACTO LEADER."

AAGGGKK--
HNNNN
SORRY.
"YOU'VE PROVEN YOUR RADICAL, SEPARATIST NOTIONS OF LEADERSHIP ARE JUST AS OUT OF TOUCH WITH MAINSTREAM AMERICA AS THE EXTREME MUTOPHOBIA ESPOUSED BY SIMON TRASK AND HIS FOLLOWERS...
--HEFF--
"BY STANDING DOWN, YOU'LL HAVE PROVEN THAT YOU AND YOUR KIND ARE WILLING TO WORK TOWARD A PEACEFUL END TO THIS EXTRAORDINARY NIGHT. PROFESSOR XAVIER AGREES WITH ME, ISN'T THAT RIGHT?"
"THAT'S RIGHT, DIRECTOR OSBORN. AS ONE OF THE WORLD'S FOREMOST PSYCHIC PRESENCES, I THINK I'D BE ABLE TO DETECT ANY ILL WILL YOU MIGHT BE HARBORING TOWARDS MUTANTS."
WE LOST HIM. POLK STREET, HEADING EAST.
"AND, SCOTT-- OR ANY MUTANTS HEARING MY VOICE-- I'M HERE TO TELL YOU--


THE CASTRO:
"NORMAN OSBORN AND THE AVENGERS MEAN NO HARM TO ANY MUTANT, ANYWHERE.
"THEIR ONLY CARE IS FOR UPHOLDING THE LAW AND FOR THE SAFETY OF THE PUBLIC, REGARDLESS OF THEIR CHROMOSOMAL MAKEUP."

THE EMBARCADERO:
GO AHEAD.
MAKE MY DAY.
"ALL OF MY PEOPLE--AVENGERS AND H.A.M.M.E.R. ALIKE--ARE FOLLOWING STRICT NON-VIOLENT METHODS OF CROWD AND RIOT CONTROL, CORRECT, PROFESSOR?"

C'MERE.
"THAT'S CORRECT. NO ONE IS TO BE HARASSED OR ACCOSTED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES. H.A.M.M.E.R. AND THE AVENGERS REALLY ARE HERE TO QUELL VIOLENCE AND RESTORE ORDER."


THANK YOU FOR YOUR EFFORTS AND CLEAR, CALM VOICE IN THESE TRYING TIMES, PROFESSOR.
ANYTHING I CAN DO TO HELP, NORMAN.
WE WON'T BE TAKING ANY QUESTIONS--I'M SURE YOU UNDERSTAND.

"WE'VE STILL GOT A LOT OF CLEANING UP TO DO."
I'M GONNA KILL YOU.
GOING MY WAY?
BOBBY DRAKE—ICEMAN. ORIGINAL X-MAN. INCORRUPTIBLE. INDEFATIGABLE.
DAMMIT.
DAMMIT. DAMMIT. DAMMIT--
THIS--
THIS IS MADNESS!
YOU DON'T KNOW THE HALF OF IT YET...

SAN FRANCISCO BAY
ALCATRAZ ISLAND:
WEST COAST HEADQUARTERS--
H.A.M.M.E.R.
THE CLOCKS ARE STRIKING THIRTEEN, HENRY.
HENRY?
ARE YOU THERE, HENRY?
YES, I HEARD. AN ORWELL REFERENCE. 1984. THOUGHT POLICE. I GET IT.
WHAT... WHAT ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT? I CAN SENSE...I CAN ONLY SENSE VAGUE...DREAD. HOSTILITY.
YOU REALLY ARE THE PLANET'S MOST FORMIDABLE PSYCHIC, AREN'T YOU?
NEXT YOU'LL TELL ME I HAVE TROUBLES IN LOVE AND I'M WORRIED ABOUT WHAT PEOPLE THINK AND THE WAY I LOOK...
I SUPPOSE THAT'S FAIR. I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU WOULD TRUST ME EITHER.
OKAY, "CHARLES." OKAY.
I'M WONDERING IF OTHER MUTANTS WERE ARRESTED AND IF SO, WHO. IF THERE WERE FULL-BLOWN RIOTS. IF ANYONE WAS HURT. AND IF THE X-MEN KNOW WHERE I AM.
AND, YES, I'M TRYING TO DECIDE IF OSBORN HAS PUT A PLANT DOWN HERE TO SCREW WITH ME.
THEY'RE COMING FOR YOU, HENRY.

THE OMEGA MACHINE, HENRY.
THEY'RE TAKING YOU TO THE OMEGA MACHINE.
INSIDE
SCREAMING
AHH. DR. McCOY.
SO NICE OF YOU TO JOIN US.
HENRY PHILIP McCOY II— DARK BEAST! WELL, ANOTHER BEAST. FROM ANOTHER TIMELINE.
TAKE A SEAT.

I ASSUME YOU'VE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY DOSSIER X AND MY OUTLINE FOR RESTORING LAW AND ORDER TO THE BAY AREA.
OF COURSE.
I'M A PROFESSIONAL.
THEN WHAT SAY WE GET TO WORK.
ARE YOU READY TO MEET YOUR TEAM?
MY TEAM YOU SAY?
WELL, I'D RATHER DO IT NOW THAN AFTER THE CITY BURNS ITSELF TO THE GROUND.
LET'S GO.
THERE.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

TANDY BOWEN-LACCER. ENERGY BLADES, HEALER. FORMER RUNAWAY AND DRUG ADDICT.

TY JOHNSTON-CLOCK. DIMENSIONAL TELEPORTATION. FORMER RUNAWAY AND DRUG ADDICT.

DAKEN-WOLVERINE. SON OF WOLVERINE. CURRENTLY SERVING ON NORMAN'S AVENGERS.

MICHAEL POINTER-WEAPON OMEGA. ENERGY ABSORPTION AND BLASTING. CANADIAN.

CALVIN MONTGOMERY RANKIN-RANKIN. ADAPTS POWERS OF NEARBY MUTANTS. OLD SCHOOL BAD GUY READY FOR THE BIG TIME.

WELL NOW.

LET ME MAKE THE INTRODUCTIONS.

"RANKIN'S BEEN A WASHOUT IN THE PAST BUT HIS POWER SET AND EXPERIENCE MAKES HIM A STRATEGIC GET."

ARE THERE CAMERAS HERE? ARE WE BEING WATCHED?

"ADD TO THAT THE URGE TO PLEASE NOT UNLIKE A WHIPPED *DOG* AND YOU'VE GOT A REAL POWER PLAYER.

"MS. *BOWEN* HERE IS A GREAT SHOULDABEEN. HER HEALING GIFTS ARE MORE PROFOUND THAN HER OFFENSIVE POWERS."

BETTER NOT BE.

PERV.

"AND HER BIGGEST ASSET IS THAT SHE GUARANTEED THE PRESENCE OF..."

LET HIM LOOK. I DON'T CARE.

"...THE SURLY MR. JOHNSON. HIS TELEPORTATION ALONE DURING THE *INVASION* WOULD'VE EARNED HIM MEDALS AND COMMENDATIONS IF HE HAD BEEN STREET-LEGAL.

"NEITHER OF THEM WANT TO BE HERE, BUT YOU'LL BRING THEM AROUND.

"DAKEN AKIHIRO IS A STRATEGIC LOANER FROM MY AVENGERS. HIS Q NUMBERS ARE ASTRONOMICAL AND I WANT HIM TO BE THE GATEWAY BRAND BETWEEN THE TWO TEAMS.

"TURNS OUT PEOPLE *LOVE* WOLVERINE. CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF HIM. WHO KNEW?

"BESIDES, HE'S THE OFFENSIVE MUSCLE YOU'LL NEED WHEN AND IF HIS *FATHER* COMES CALLING."

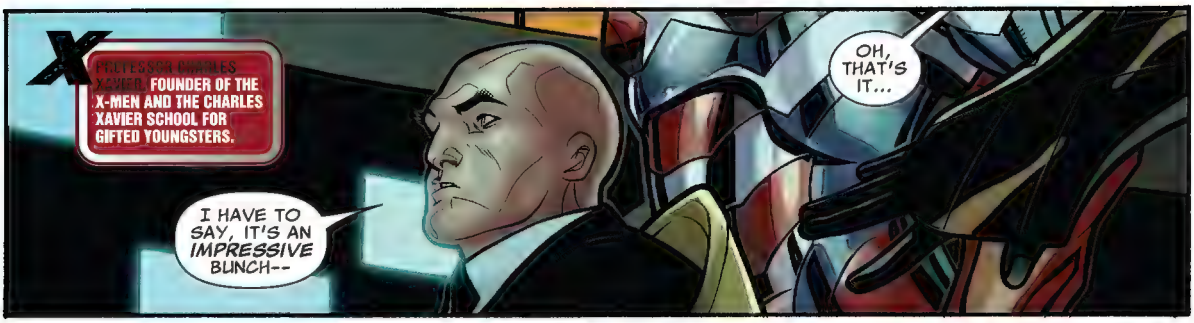
OOH, BIG TOUGH GUY BACK THERE, HUH? GOOD TO KNOW.

"OMEGA IS MICHAEL POINTER. HE'S DONE SOME GOOD UP NORTH AND HIS POWERS--"

HEY. HEY. HEY, IS IT READY? IS IT--

IT'S READY, POINTER. RELAX.

"WELL, MR. McCOY THERE--*OUR* MR. McCOY, I SHOULD SAY, RATHER THAN *YOURS*--HAS WORKED OUT A SYSTEM TO UPGRADE HIS POWERS EXPONENTIALLY IN A WAY THAT TIES INTO ALL OF OUR PROBLEMS..."

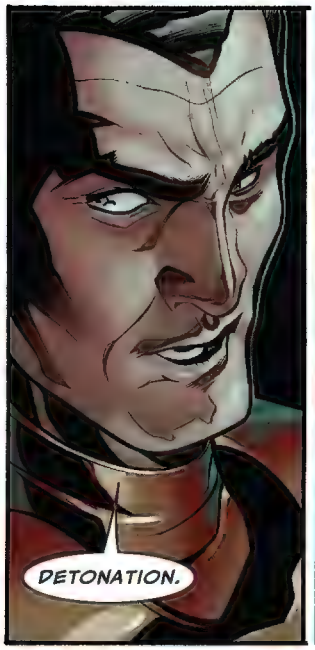

PROFESSOR CHARLES XAVIER: FOUNDER OF THE X-MEN AND THE CHARLES XAVIER SCHOOL FOR GIFTED YOUNGSTERS.
OH, THAT'S IT...
I HAVE TO SAY, IT'S AN IMPRESSIVE BUNCH--

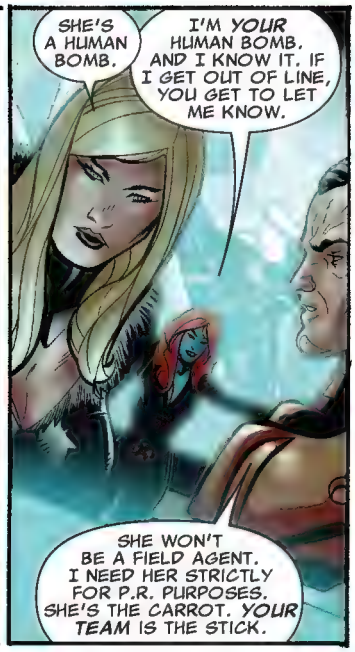
YOU'RE NOT PROFESSOR CHARLES XAVIER. YOU MIGHT FOOL THE RUBES AND YOU MIGHT HAVE EVEN FOOLED OSBORN BUT IT'S NOT FOOLING ME.
OMEGA CLASS TELEPATHS CAN SNIFF EACH OTHER OUT.
DARKHOLME. KNOCK IT OFF.

THANK GOD. SITTING THAT STILL WAS GETTING BORING.
IS PROFESSOR X EVEN IN A WHEELCHAIR ANYMORE?
RAVEN DARKHOLME'S--MYSTIQUE: SHAPE-SHIFTER EXTRAORDINAIRE. FREQUENTLY MISTAKEN FOR DEAD.

ABSOLUTELY NOT.
I DON'T TRUST HER AS FAR AS I CAN THROW HER AND, DARLING, I CAN THROW TRASH LIKE MYSTIQUE A VERY LONG WAY.
YOU REALLY THINK WE'D LET A SHAPE-SHIFTING CRIMINAL WITH A RECORD LONGER THAN MY ARM JUST WALTZ AROUND THE JOINT?

OUR DEAL WITH THE DECEPTIVE MS. DARKHOLME WAS PREDICATED ON THIS: AN EXPERIMENTAL BEHAVIORAL MODIFICATION TECHNIQUE WE'VE HAD SUCCESS WITH IN OTHERS OF HER ILK.
IN THE BLOOD, YOU SEE. TINY MACHINES. CAPABLE OF EXECUTING... CORRECTIVES...AS I SEE FIT.
STARTING AT DEBILITATING ELECTROSHOCK AND ENDING AT, WELL...


DETONATION.

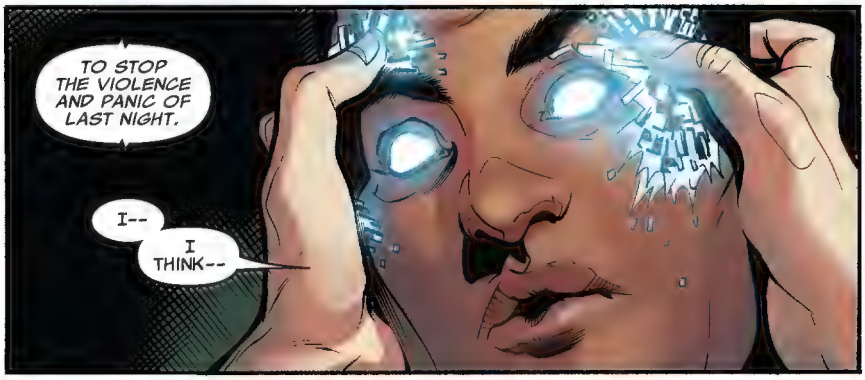

SHE'S A HUMAN BOMB.
I'M YOUR HUMAN BOMB, AND I KNOW IT. IF I GET OUT OF LINE, YOU GET TO LET ME KNOW.
SHE WON'T BE A FIELD AGENT. I NEED HER STRICTLY FOR P.R. PURPOSES. SHE'S THE CARROT. YOUR TEAM IS THE STICK.

THIS IS YOUR TEAM, NOT MINE.
THESE FOLKS ARE NON-NEGOTIABLE BUT ANY VALUE-ADDS YOU MIGHT HAVE--
JUST ONE.
ONE?
ONE.
HE'S HERE NOW.
KING OF RUINED KINGDOM OF ATLANTIS. MUTANT.
NORMAN.
NICELY PLAYED, MS. FROST.
I KNEW I COULD COUNT ON YOU.
MY TEAM. MY WAY.
"MUTANT PROBLEMS, MUTANT SOLUTIONS."

...AND THESE ALL-NEW, ALL-DIFFERENT X-MEN ARE THAT SOLUTION.
I HAVE MY HANDS FULL, OF COURSE, LEADING THE AVENGERS, SO MISS EMMA FROST WILL HANDLE LEADERSHIP OF THIS FIELD TEAM UNDER THE GUIDANCE AND WISDOM OF CHARLES XAVIER.
EMMA?
MY LIFE HAS BEEN DEDICATED TO THE EDUCATION, PROTECTION, AND TRAINING OF MUTANT CHILDREN. TO KEEPING MY PEOPLE--OUR PEOPLE--ALL PEOPLE--SAFE.
IN SAFETY THERE IS SECURITY. AND THAT'S THE OBJECTIVE OF THIS TEAM.
TO REGAIN, REBUILD, AND RESTORE THE TRUST OF THE PEOPLE OF THE BAY AREA, NOT JUST IN THE X-MEN, BUT ALSO IN ALL MUTANTKIND.
AND FROM THERE BEGIN REBUILDING--THROUGH DEEDS RATHER THAN RHETORIC--THE FRAYED BOND THAT TIES HUMANITY AND MUTANTS TOGETHER AS ONE.
LIVE
TO START WITH, AND WITH NORMAN'S BLESSING, WE'RE IMPLEMENTING A CITYWIDE CURFEW FOR ALL CITIZENS--HUMAN AND MUTANT ALIKE--EFFECTIVE FROM SUNDOWN UNTIL SUNRISE FOR THE INDEFINITE FUTURE.
NO ONE BUT THE FORCES OF LAW AND ORDER WILL BE PERMITTED ON THE STREETS COME NIGHTFALL LEST THEY FACE IMMEDIATE ARREST AND INCARCERATION.
FGNY

...WE HOPE THIS WILL PROVIDE A MUCH NEEDED...COOLING DOWN PERIOD...FOR ANY FIRES, LITERAL OR METAPHORICAL, THAT'VE BROKEN OUT OVER THE LAST TWENTY-FOUR HOURS...
WHETHER STOKED BY SCOTT SUMMERS OR SIMON TRASK, THE BAY AREA NEEDS NEITHER OF THESE TWO POLES OF EXTREMITY.
TT.
ANY PAIN, MR. TRASK? DID YOU SLEEP WELL?
NOT A WINK. HERE, BOY, TELL ME SOMETHING--

THE IMPORTANT THING RIGHT NOW IS TO MAINTAIN CALM.
DO YOU THINK MY MESSAGE OF HOPE AND SAFETY FOR ALL HUMANITY IS EXTREME?
WHOA WHOA WHOA--


TO STOP THE VIOLENCE AND PANIC OF LAST NIGHT.
I--
I THINK--

AND GET THIS CITY BACK TO NORMAL...
I THINK WHATEVER YOU WANT ME TO THINK.
THAT'S RIGHT.

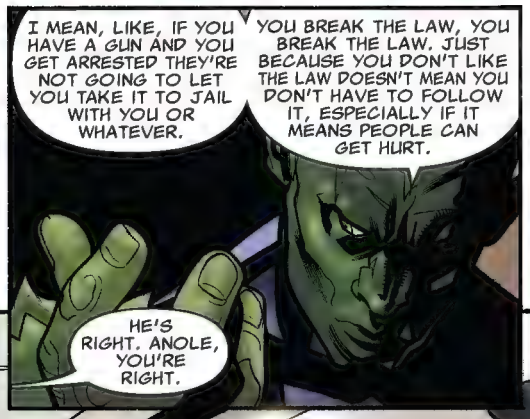
AND ITS CITIZENS FEELING SAFE AND SOUND.
CHILDREN. HEAR ME NOW.
RISE.
HAIGH NOT HATE
SHEILA? ARE YOU OKAY?

WE OF COURSE HAVE SPECIAL CONCERN FOR THE MUTANTS IN RESIDENCE IN THE MARIN HEADLANDS.
S.W.A.T. AND H.A.M.M.E.R. AGENTS ARE WATCHING THE FACILITY CAREFULLY TO INSURE NO ROGUE MUTANTS ATTEMPT TO INSTIGATE OR INCITE ANY FURTHER VIOLENCE...
SCOTT, DO YOU--
SHH.
BUT-- SHE--DO YOU REALLY THINK--
PETER. SHH. I NEED TO HEAR THIS.
...AND ONCE AGAIN DIRECTOR OSBORN STOPPED JUST SHORT OF ISSUING AN ARREST WARRANT FOR SO-CALLED MUTANT LEADER SCOTT SUMMERS, SEEN TODAY FLEEING THE RIOT'S EPICENTER...
THAT'S GREAT, THOUGH. A CURFEW. BRILLIANT STRATEGY.
I MEAN, IF WE OBEY, HE WINS, AND IF WE DON'T, HE WINS. IT'S A FANTASTIC PLAY.
HE? DON'T YOU MEAN "SHE?"
SHE'S A FASCIST! THIS WHOLE THING IS FASCIST!
DEEP BREATHS, CESS. EMMA PLAYED US OUT OF POSITION THIS ROUND. I'D EXPECT NO LESS FROM HER.
THE GAME IS FAR FROM OVER.
BUT DON'T YOU, LIKE, LACK THE...LIKE, THE MORAL AUTHORITY RIGHT NOW?
I MEAN... THEY'RE MAKING YOU SOUND LIKE A CRIMINAL.
ARE WE GONNA GET ARRESTED?
AND DID YOU GUYS BREAK UP OR WHAT?
LIVE
...LET'S OPEN THE FLOOR TO SOME QUESTIONS.

WHERE ARE MUTANTS THAT'RE BEING ARRESTED BEING DETAINED? ARE THEY WITH A HUMAN PRISON POPULACE OR ARE THEY ISOLATED?
AND ARE THERE MEASURES BEING TAKEN TO ENSURE THEIR POWERS CAN'T BE USED TO ENABLE ESCAPE OR TO CAUSE FURTHER HARM TO THE PUBLIC GOOD?

HI, JENNY, GREAT QUESTION. AND ONE THAT, DUE TO THE SECURITY OF ALL PARTIES INVOLVED, WE CAN'T ANSWER IN EXACT SPECIFICS RIGHT NOW.
MUTANT DETAINEES ARE BEING KEPT IN A FACILITY THAT MANAGES THEIR POWERS TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF THE GENERAL POPULACE.
MUTANT LAWBREAKERS WILL BE SAFELY AND HUMANELY DISARMED FOR THE DURATION OF THEIR CAPTURE. NEXT QUESTION.

LOOK! SHE KNOWS. DUDE, SHE TOTALLY KNOWS. LOOK AT HER. SHE'S INTO IT. SHE AGREES.
SO WHAT IF SHE KNOWS? IT'S NOT EXACTLY WRONG, IS IT?


I MEAN, LIKE, IF YOU HAVE A GUN AND YOU GET ARRESTED THEY'RE NOT GOING TO LET YOU TAKE IT TO JAIL WITH YOU OR WHATEVER.
YOU BREAK THE LAW, YOU BREAK THE LAW. JUST BECAUSE YOU DON'T LIKE THE LAW DOESN'T MEAN YOU DON'T HAVE TO FOLLOW IT, ESPECIALLY IF IT MEANS PEOPLE CAN GET HURT.
HE'S RIGHT. ANOLE, YOU'RE RIGHT.

RIGHT NOW, TODAY, AND LATER TONIGHT, OSBORN'S WORD IS LAW.
...
YOU MEAN YOU'RE JUST GONNA WAIT, RIGHT?
I HATE IT AS MUCH AS THE REST OF YOU BUT HE'S RUNNING THE BOARD RIGHT NOW. UNTIL WE KNOW WHAT THE RULES OF THE GAME ARE, THE PLAN IS TO WATCH. TO STUDY. AND TO PLAN.

THE SUNSET:
GENE POOL
OPEN
SO THIS IS CRAP. I KNOW IT, YOU KNOW IT; IT'S CRAP.
THE QUESTION IS--ARE WE GONNA JUST SIT HERE AND TAKE IT?
HELL NO, WE'RE NOT.
SO I BEEN OUT THERE, SINCE THIS ALL GOT STARTED, AND FRIENDS, I CAN TELL YOU THIS FOR REAL:
THE HUMANS ARE DONE WITH OUR KIND. THEY'RE ALL OUT FOR BLOOD.
DAMN STRAIGHT.
BEN HAMMIL--MATCH. FIRE GENERATION. ANGER ISSUES.
LORELEI TRAVIS. PREHENSILE HAIR. "DANCER."
DOMINIKOS IOANNIS PETRAKIS--AVALANCHE. VIBRATION GENERATION. OWNS THE BAR.
ADAM NERAMANI--ADAM X. INFLICTS SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION.
JEREMIAH MULDOON--MELD. LIQUEFICATION OF METAL; EX-MILITARY.
ROBERTO DA COSTA--SUNSPOT. SOLAR ENERGY MANIPULATION. KNOWS BETTER THAN TO BE HERE.
MINE, YOURS, THEY DON'T CARE, BUT MAKE NO MISTAKE--THEY'RE GONNA ROUND US UP AND PUT US IN CAMPS THIS TIME.
AND I AIN'T GONNA GO WITHOUT A FIGHT. YOU WITH ME?

EXACTLY. WE CAN'T--I MEAN, LOOK, I WANT TO GO OUT THERE AND SMASH THESE FASCISTS IN THE FACE AS MUCH AS ANYBODY, BUT--BUT THAT'S HOW THEY WOULD ACT.

THAT'S WHAT THEY DO. WE'RE THE EVOLVED, RIGHT? LET'S ACT LIKE IT.

THE SECOND WE BREAK CURFEW, WE'RE ALL GOING TO JAIL. WHICH I'M FINE WITH BUT, DAMMIT, IT'S GOTTA COUNT.

WE'RE GOING TO GO OUT AND EXERCISE OUR RIGHT TO PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY AND GET ARRESTED IN AS HIGHLY VISIBLE A MANNER AS POSSIBLE AND LET EVERYONE SEE WHAT'S COMING IF WE DON'T DEMAND OUR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS.

HERE.

RIGHT IN THE HEART OF IT. A PUBLIC SPACE, MUNICIPAL SPACE, NOT PRIVATE PROPERTY, SURROUNDED BY PEOPLE AND BUILDINGS.

IMPOSSIBLE TO IGNORE.

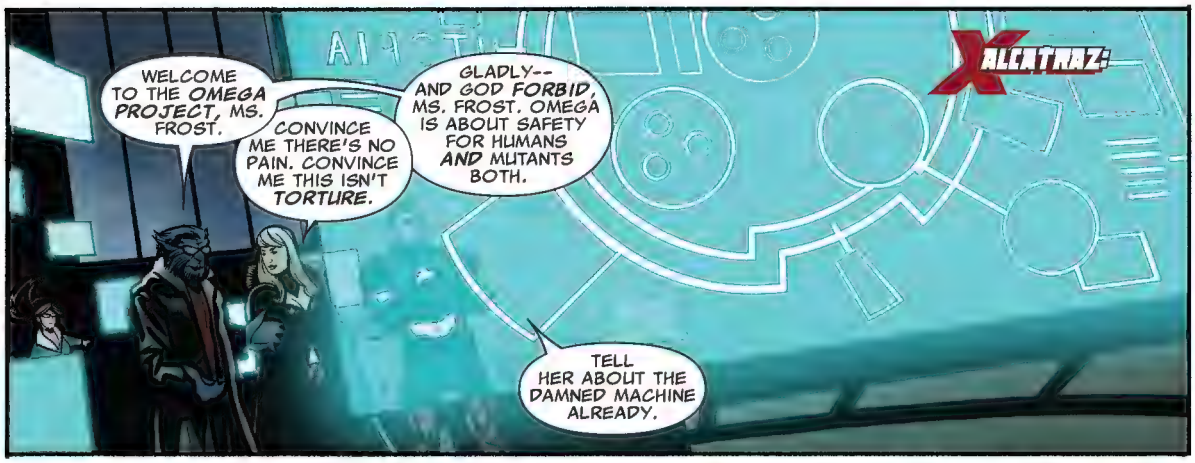
HERE.

Union Square Park

200

Geary St

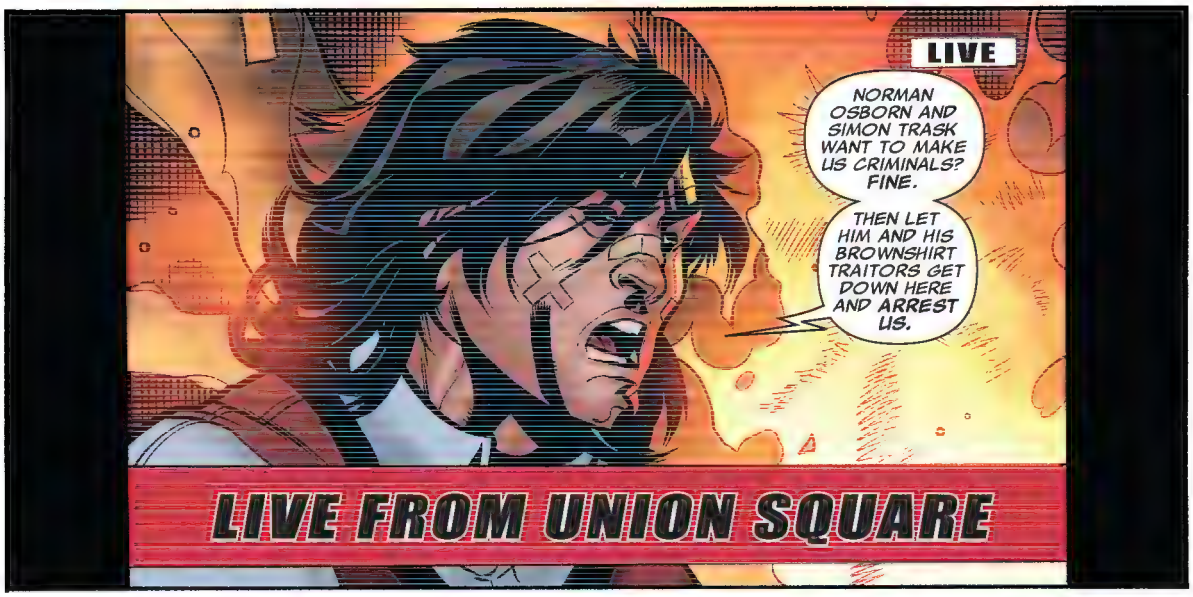
X UNION SQUARE:


X ALCATRAZ:
WELCOME TO THE OMEGA PROJECT, MS. FROST.
CONVINCE ME THERE'S NO PAIN. CONVINCE ME THIS ISN'T TORTURE.
GLADLY-- AND GOD FORBID, MS. FROST. OMEGA IS ABOUT SAFETY FOR HUMANS AND MUTANTS BOTH.
TELL HER ABOUT THE DAMNED MACHINE ALREADY.

"THE OMEGA MACHINE, MS. FROST, IS A MARVEL AND, I ASSURE YOU, COMPLETELY HUMANE. THINK OF IT LIKE ADDING A SPEED GOVERNOR TO AN ENGINE. JOIN ME, IF YOU WILL, AND I'LL GIVE YOU A SHORT TOUR OF THE FACIL--

"DIRECTOR OSBORN! SOMETHING'S HAPPENING."
--PORTING LIVE FROM UNION SQUARE WHERE...
WHOA. HEY.
HEY!

THE WHOLE WORLD IS WATCHING!
LET'S LIGHT IT UP--
HELLION, DON'T DO THIS.
PLEASE DON'T BE DOING THIS.



WELL. "TEAM."

APPARENTLY A CLUSTER OF MUTANT AGITATORS HAVE CONGREGATED IN UNION SQUARE IN FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE CURFEW.

THEY'RE DARING US TO ARREST THEM.

SO ARREST THEM WE SHALL.

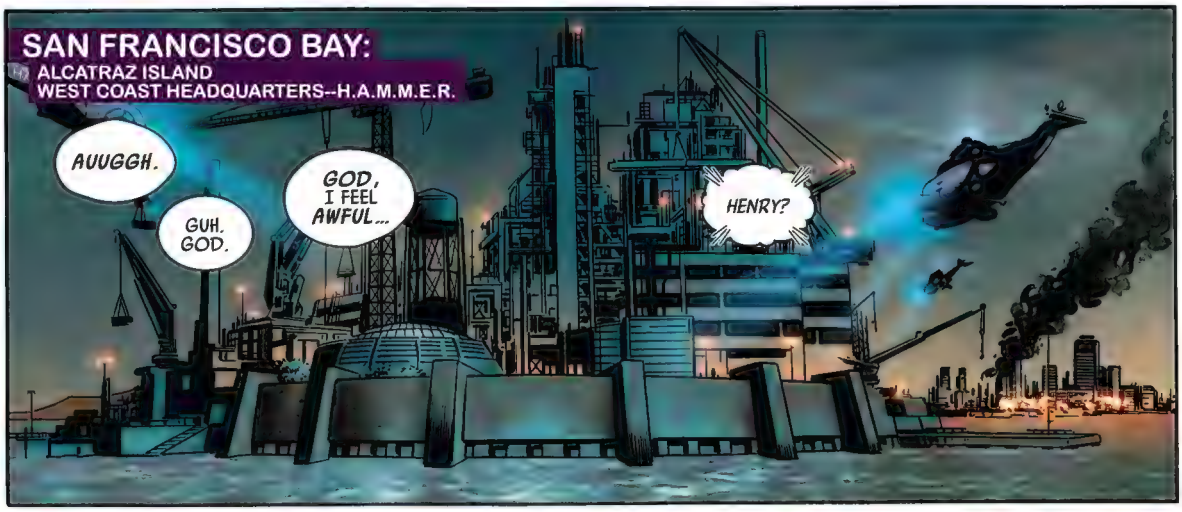
WE SHALL BE SWIFT AND SAFE, HEROIC AND HUMANE. AND DON'T FORGET:

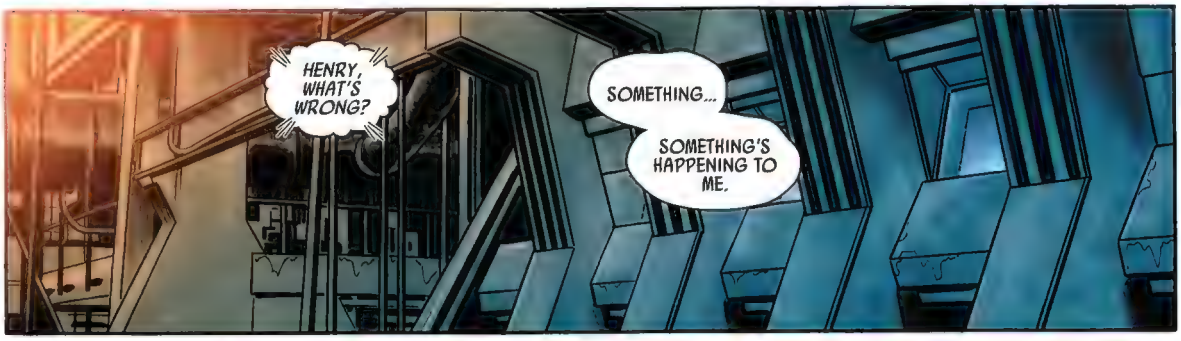
THERE ARE ABOUT TEN THOUSAND TELEVISION CAMERAS AIMED AT YOU. SO DON'T GET CUTE.

NEXT STOP, UNION SQUARE.

MR. KELLER--
YOU'RE UNDER ARREST.
LIVE
OKAY, EMMA.
OKAY.
I THINK IT'S TIME I HAD A TALK WITH NORMAN OSBORN.

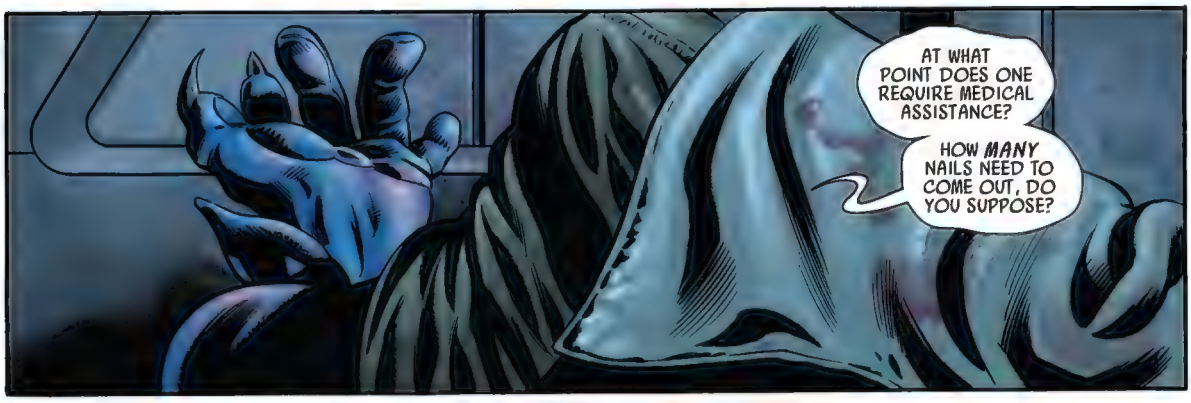
DARK AVENGERS #7
"UTOPIA PART 3"


SAN FRANCISCO BAY:
ALCATRAZ ISLAND
WEST COAST HEADQUARTERS--H.A.M.M.E.R.
AUUGGH.
GUH. GOD.
GOD, I FEEL AWFUL...
HENRY?


HENRY, WHAT'S WRONG?
SOMETHING...
SOMETHING'S HAPPENING TO ME.

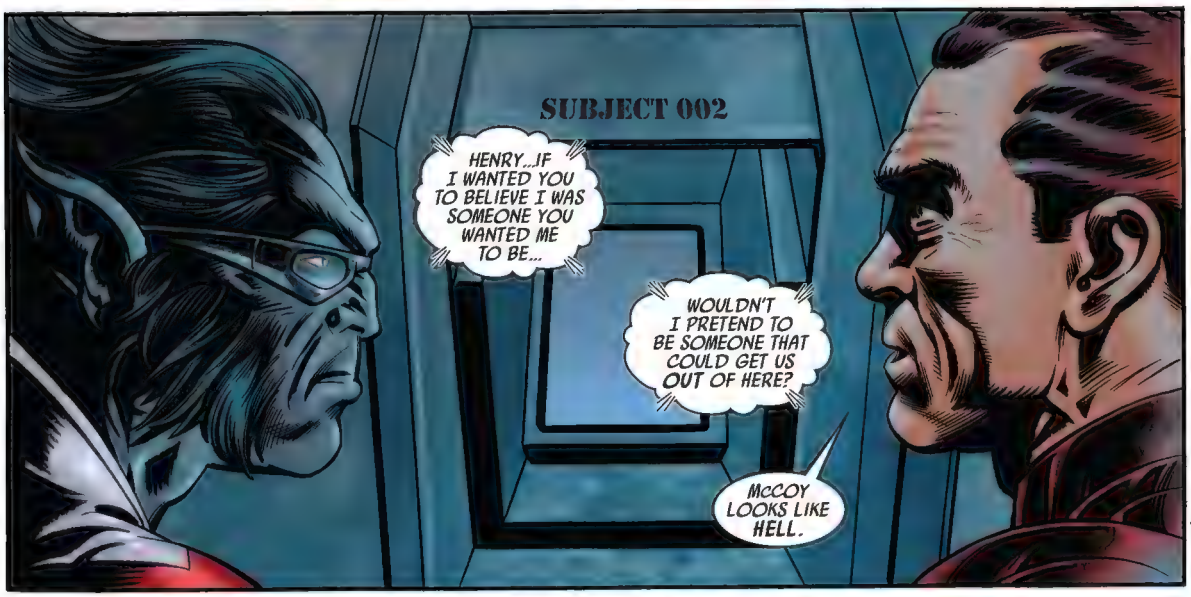
ARE YOU HURT, HENRY?
DO YOU NEED MEDICAL ATTENTION?
PROFESSOR CHARLES XAVIER--THE FOREMOST PSYCHIC OF HIS AGE. GENIUS. PRISONER.

MY FINGERNAILS JUST FELL OUT.
SO YOU TELL ME, PROFESSOR.


AT WHAT POINT DOES ONE REQUIRE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE?
HOW MANY NAILS NEED TO COME OUT, DO YOU SUPPOSE?

I SUSPECT MY DEWCLAW IS DETACHING AS WELL.
HENRY...
SAVE YOUR STRENGTH. DEMONSTRATING YOUR GALLOWS BRAVADO ONLY WASTES ENERGY.

AND WHY SHOULD I LISTEN TO YOU? I DON'T KNOW THAT YOU ARE WHO YOU SAY.
I MEAN, IF YOU CAN TALK IN MY HEAD, WHY COULDN'T YOU MAKE ME THINK YOU WERE WHOMEVER YOU WANTED YOU TO BE.
DR. HANK MCCOY-- THE BEAST. FELINE PHYSIOLOGY. SUPERHUMAN ABILITIES. TORTURE VICTIM.


SUBJECT 002
HENRY...IF I WANTED YOU TO BELIEVE I WAS SOMEONE YOU WANTED ME TO BE...
WOULDN'T I PRETEND TO BE SOMEONE THAT COULD GET US OUT OF HERE?
McCOY LOOKS LIKE HELL.

YES, WELL...
THE OMEGA MACHINE IS AN ONGOING EXPERIMENT SUBJECT TO CONSTANT REFINEMENT.
EACH MUTANT WILL REACT TO IT DIFFERENTLY.
DARK BEAST--DR. HENRY MCCOY OF A NIGHTMARISH ALTERNATE REALITY, MUTANT GENETICIST AND TORTURE AFICIONADO.

THAT'S UNACCEPTABLE.
YOU PROMISED ME YOUR OMEGA MACHINE WOULD PAINLESSLY AND HARMLESSLY SAP MUTANTS OF THEIR POWERS.
THERE IS NO VALUE IN A DEVICE THAT TORTURES THEM INTO USELESSNESS.
A
NORMAN OSBORN--AKA IRON PATRIOT. DIRECTOR OF H.A.M.M.E.R. SLOWLY BOILING CAULDRON OF INSANITY.

WE DON'T HAVE ROOM FOR REFINEMENTS. I NEED THE MACHINE THAT DOES WHAT YOU SAID IT WOULD DO.
DON'T YOU DARE GIVE ME ORDERS.
THIS MACHINE--TO CREATE SUCH A THING, SUCH A MIRACLE WITH THE CRUDE TOOLS YOU CONSIDER TECHNOLOGY--
SHUT UP.

YOU WHINE LIKE AN OLD WOMAN THAT CAN'T FIND HER PILLS AT NAPTIME.

I BROUGHT YOU HERE--I'VE GIVEN YOU EVERYTHING YOU'VE ASKED FOR--BECAUSE OF WHAT YOU SWORE YOU COULD DELIVER.

SO. NOW YOU DELIVER.

OR WE'LL HOOK YOU UP TO THE THING, CRANK IT UP 'TIL THE DIAL COMES OFF AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS, HM?

OSBORN'S SUITE:
"REFINEMENTS," BOB. "REFINEMENTS," HE GIVES ME.
IT'S A CRAZY WORLD WE LIVE IN.
HMM.

IT'S OKAY.
EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE OKAY.
IT LOOKS BAD.
I KNOW.
IT ALWAYS LOOKS BAD.
THAT'S JUST HOW IT LOOKS, BOB. THAT'S JUST YOUR PERCEPTION.
IF ONLY YOU COULD SEE THE WORLD THROUGH MY EYES...
...YOU'D SEE HOW BIG OF A WIN THIS ALL IS.
TRUST ME, BOB. AND TRUST MS. FROST TO DO HER JOB FOR US...

UNION SQUARE:

DRAMA QUEEN.
SOCKS

NO NO NO NO--
LORELEI TRAVIS--LORELEI. PREHENSILE HAIR. OUTGUNNED.
YES. SORRY.
DARKFORCE TELEPORTER. NOT REALLY A TEAM PLAYER.

AIN'T GOIN' OUT LIKE THAT.
ADAM NERAMANI--ADAM X. MUTANT SUPERSWORDSMAN; INFLICTS COMBUSTION.
ROCK ON, EDDIE VEDDER.
LIGHT DAGGER, HEALER, RECOVERING ADDICT AND TERMINAL LONER.

POWERS OF THE ORIGINAL FIVE X-MEN. MIMICS OTHER POWERS IN PROXIMITY. REALLY HAPPY TO BE HERE.
COOL OFF, HAMMIL.
ARE YOU FOR REAL?
BEN HAMMIL--MATCH. FIRE CONTROL. NOT SO MUCH TEMPER CONTROL.

--!
YIELD.
CRYSTAL PRIMER--WEAPON OMEGA. SIPHON OF MUTANT ENERGY. BLASTER OF MUTANT ENERGY.
MUH
JEREMIAH MULDOON--MELD. ABILITY TO RESHAPE AND CONTROL METAL.
YOU. HELMET.
C'MON C'MON C'MON C'MON--
DOMINIKOS IOANNIS PETRAKIS--AVALANCHE. EARTHQUAKE GENERATION, SHOCKWAVE MANIPULATION. TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHY HE'S THE ONE THAT HAS TO DEAL WITH WOLVERINE.
AMATEUR.
DARCY--WOLVERINE. WELL, THE SON OF WOLVERINE. EAGER.
OH MY GO--

--D!
NON-LETHAL FORCE.
HE WAS TRYING TO KILL ME--
I DON'T CARE, I SAID NON-LETHAL--
HA!
IMPERIUS REX!
KING OF THE SEAS.
--GRRRAHHH--
ROBERTO DA COSTA--SUNSPOT. POWERED BY SOLAR ENERGY. STRONG AND ANGRY.

SILENCE.
DABBIT!
YOU BROGE MY NODE, MAN--
--NNNOOOOOO--
SO THAT'S IT? I'M THE LAST MAN STANDING?
THEN COME ON, PIGS.
THE WHOLE WORLD IS WATCHING.
YES, THEY ARE.
AND WHAT THEY SEE IS A GROUP OF HEROES BRINGING DOWN A BUNCH OF SUPER-POWERED HOOLIGANS THAT TRIED TO DESTROY A CITY PARK.

ALCATRAZ:
INCOMING! INCOMING!
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT THING?
HOLY--
EASY THERE, SOLDIER.
I COME IN PEACE.
X
SCOTT SUMMERS—CYCLOPS. LEADER OF THE X-MEN. OWNER OF A JETPACK.

HOLD YOUR FIRE, MEN--
MR. SUMMERS. YOU'RE A HARD MAN TO GET A HOLD OF.
HOW CAN WE HELP YOU THIS EVENING?

TAKE ME TO YOUR LEADER.

LET A DANGEROUS MUTANT EXTREMIST INTO H.A.M.M.E.R.'S WEST COAST BASE OF OPERATIONS, MR. SUMMERS? DON'T BE FOOLISH.
DIRECTOR OSBORN WILL COME TO YOU.
A
VICTORIA HAND. RIGHT HAND OF NORMAN OSBORN. THE WOMAN BEHIND THE MAN BEHIND H.A.M.M.E.R.

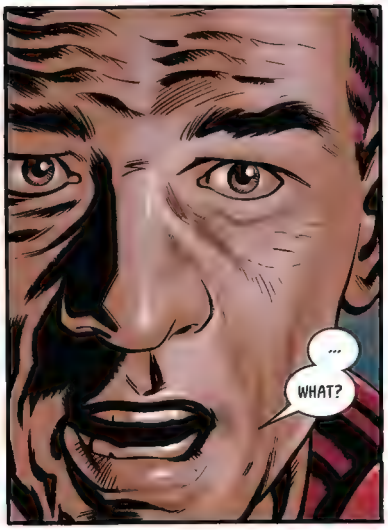
MS. HAND, THANK YOU.
FELLAS. PARDON ME.

SCOTT.
I'M NORMAN OSBORN.

YEAH.

IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE LIKE THIS, SCOTTY.
THERE'S STILL TIME, THERE'S STILL POLITICAL CAPITAL TO BE SPENT AND GOOD WILL TO BE USED.
WE CAN END ALL THIS CRAZY STUFF RIGHT HERE AND NOW, JUST YOU AND ME. THE DISTANCE BETWEEN US ISN'T SO GREAT.

SEE, I KNOW YOU'VE GOT YOUR HANDS FULL. YOU'RE THE LEADER OF AN ENTIRE PEOPLE AND THAT--
WELL, HELL, I JUST RUN A GOVERNMENT AGENCY AND I KNOW I HAVE MY DAMN HANDS FULL.
SCOTTY BOY, THE WAY I LOOK AT IT, THE PROBLEMS OF MUTANTS AND MUTANT-KIND ARE--
SURRENDER.


...
WHAT?

SURRENDER, WITHDRAW, PULL OUT, RETREAT, WHATEVER YOU WANT TO CALL IT.
YOU'VE GOT THE RIOTERS UNDER CONTROL BY NOW, OR YOU SOON WILL. GET THE FIRES OUT AND THE CURFEW TO RUN QUIETLY TOMORROW NIGHT, AND THEN GET THE HELL OUT OF MY TOWN.
COME OUT, SAY YOU AND I MET, SAY WE CAME TO TERMS AND YOU BELIEVE THE CITY IS IN GOOD HANDS. SAY WHATEVER YOU HAVE TO SAY TO SAVE FACE AND GO.
YOU AND YOUR ARMY CAN GO FIND SOME OTHER WAR TO FIGHT SOMEWHERE-- I DON'T CARE. BUT YOU CAN'T STAY HERE.

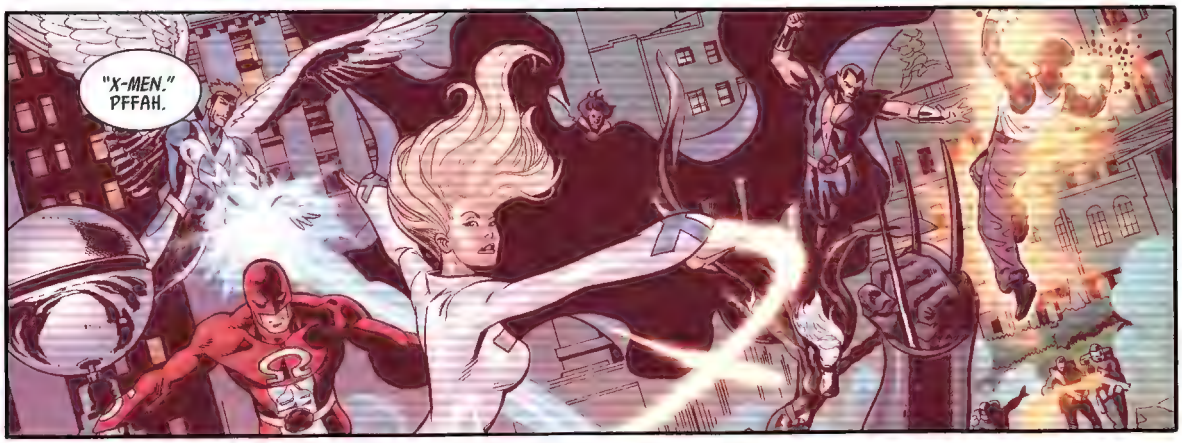
...

OR...OR WHAT?
ARE YOU... ARE YOU INSANE?
HM?
BECAUSE YOU DON'T SEEM CAPABLE OF LEADING YOUR WAY OUT OF A WET PAPER BAG.
YOU'VE GOT SUPER-POWERED FREAKS RUNNING WILD AND RAZING A CITY YOU SWORE TO PROTECT, YOU'VE GOT KIDS GOING OUT AND STARTING FIGHTS, STARTING FIRES--

YOU'RE DONE, SON.
THIS WAS IT. THIS WAS YOUR OLIVE BRANCH. AND NOW YOU DON'T GET TO WEAR THE BIG BOY PANTS ANYMORE.

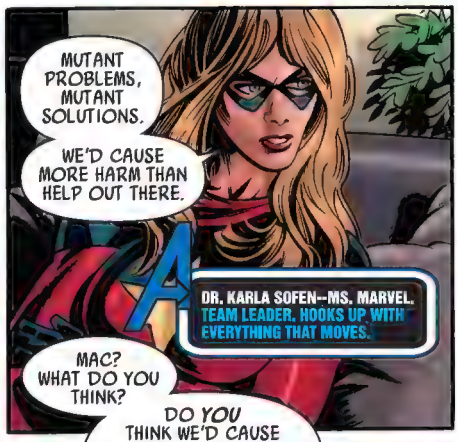
I TRIED, OSBORN.

WHEN THE TIME COMES, HAND...
...I'M GOING TO DUMP THE FIRST SHOVEL OF DIRT ON THAT KID'S GRAVE MYSELF.
MARK MY WORDS. SCOTT SUMMERS IS A DEAD MAN.


"X-MEN."
PFFAH.

STUPIDEST THING I EVER HEARD.
THOSE GUYS'RE TOURISTS.

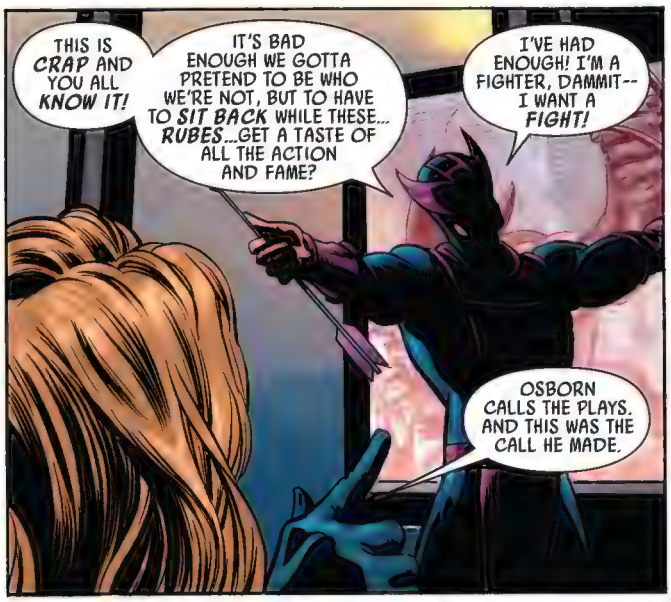
SERIOUSLY, WE KICKED ASS OUT THERE LAST NIGHT AND NOW YOU'RE TELLING ME WE'RE ALL BENCHED SO OZZIE-BOY GETS A P.R. WIN?
THAT'S CRAP.
HAWKEYE—AKA BULLSEYE. PSYCHOTIC KILLING MACHINE. BORED.


MUTANT PROBLEMS, MUTANT SOLUTIONS.
WE'D CAUSE MORE HARM THAN HELP OUT THERE.
DR. KARLA SOFEN—MS. MARVEL. TEAM LEADER. HOOKS UP WITH EVERYTHING THAT MOVES.
MAC? WHAT DO YOU THINK?

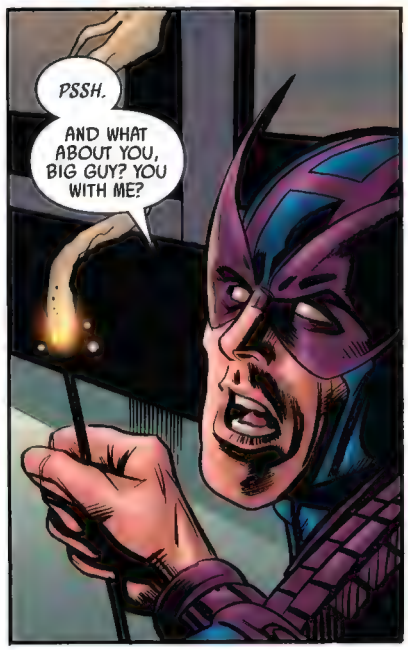
DO YOU THINK WE'D CAUSE PROBLEMS BEING OUT THERE, OR DO YOU LIKE BEING STUCK IN HERE, WATCHING TV?

S'WHAT THE BOSS SAYS, S'WHAT THE BOSS GETS.
I'M BORED TOO, BUT MOANIN' ABOUT IT WON'T HELP.
MAC GARGAN--SPIDER-MAN. VENOM SYMBIOTE-ENHANCED LOONY TUNE.

AND HIM. "WOLVERINE." GIVE ME A BREAK.
HOW MANY TEAMS CAN THAT GUY BE ON?!?


THIS IS CRAP AND YOU ALL KNOW IT!
IT'S BAD ENOUGH WE GOTTA PRETEND TO BE WHO WE'RE NOT, BUT TO HAVE TO SIT BACK WHILE THESE... RUBES...GET A TASTE OF ALL THE ACTION AND FAME?
I'VE HAD ENOUGH! I'M A FIGHTER, DAMMIT-- I WANT A FIGHT!
OSBORN CALLS THE PLAYS. AND THIS WAS THE CALL HE MADE.

NOW SIT DOWN AND SHUT UP.


PSSH.
AND WHAT ABOUT YOU, BIG GUY? YOU WITH ME?

AYE.
ARES--GREEK GOD OF WAR. ORATOR.

HAH.
DAMN STRAIGHT.

WELL WELL WELL.
MISSION ACCOMPLISHED.

UM, HEY, GUYS?
THEY'RE BACK. THE, AHH... NORMAN'S X-MEN ARE BACK.

OOPS.
HEY!

FIRST YOU HAD SOME KIND OF PSYCHOTIC CONNIPTION IN THE FIELD AND NOW YOU WANT TO ROUGH UP THE PRISONERS?
YOU'RE NOT MY BOSS, LADY, AND ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, I'M NOT THAT IMPRESSED.

YOU BETTER GET DOWN THERE.
YEAH.

PEOPLE--
PEOPLE, ENOUGH!
HOW DARE YOU--
COME ON THEN! COME AT ME IN THE FLESH, COWARD!

NO, ABSOLUTELY NOT.
I WILL NOT HAVE CAPTURED MUTANTS ABUSED OR MUTILATED OR TORTURED BY ANY TEAM I AM A PART OF, OSBORN. AND THIS--

--THESE ARE CITIZENS, WITH RIGHTS, CIVIL AND HUMAN.
THEY MAY HAVE BROKEN THE LAW BUT THEY'RE STILL PROTECTED.

EMMA, EMMA-- COMPOSE YOURSELF. CALM DOWN.
THIS LOOKS BAD, I UNDERSTAND THAT. THE VISUAL ISN'T ONE WE'RE CRAZY ABOUT, BUT, HERE, LOOK.
THE BEAST HERE DESIGNED THE HELMETS TO BE PAIN-FREE POWER-DAMPENING DEVICES. THAT'S IT. THAT'S ALL.
I KNOW WHO THAT IS, NORMAN, AND THAT MONSTER IS NOTHING LIKE THE BEAST. THAT YOU PROFANE HENRY McCOY BY--
YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN, EMMA.
THEN SHOW ME.
SHOW YOU WHAT, EMMA? WHAT DO YOU WANT TO SEE?
EVERYTHING.
SHOW ME EVERYTHING YOU TWO ARE DOING TO THE MUTANTS YOU'RE KEEPING HERE.
PROVE TO ME YOU'RE NOT TORTURING MY KIND OR ELSE I'LL PUNCH A HOLE THROUGH YOUR HEART, OSBORN.
OF COURSE.
BEAST, LET'S SHOW MS. FROST THE OMEGA MACHINE.
HNNF.

BEHAVE.

SO...
SO ARE YOU AN AVENGER OR AN X-MAN OR WHAT?

I ALWAYS DID LIKE PLAYING FOR BOTH TEAMS.
WHY? IS THERE A PROBLEM WITH THAT?
LET ME REPHRASE THAT--

DO YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THAT, LITTLE MAN?
NOTHIN' I CAN'T TAKE CARE OF WITHOUT BREAKING A SWEAT.

I WOULD LOVE--QUITE LITERALLY, LOVE--
TO SEE YOU TRY, YOU RIDICULOUS CARNY.

FINALLY, SOME ACTION.

IT'S NOT THE FOUR SEASONS, YOU UNDERSTAND, BUT WE'RE DOING OUR BEST.
THE PRISONERS. WHERE?
ANY OF THE CELLS WITH PROJECT NUMBERS ON THEM. INSPECT WHOMEVER YOU WISH.

PART OF THE PROCESS, YOU SEE, IS THE GOVERNING OF A MUTANT'S ABILITY TO UTILIZE THEIR MUTANT ABILITIES...
THERE'S A DEGREE OF LETHARGY AT THE ONSET, A BIT LIKE A MILD FLU.

WE'RE WORKING AROUND THE CLOCK TO LESSEN THAT.
ALL THE SAME, THERE IS NO PERMANENT DAMAGE FROM THE PROCEDURE. ADMINISTERED DAILY, IT LIMITS MUTANT ABILITIES BUT DOESN'T RETARD THEM IN ANY LASTING WAY.

IT'S A WORK IN PROGRESS, BUT THAT PROGRESS IS VERY REAL AND IS MADE DAILY.
THE MUTANT RIOTERS DOWN HERE--IF WE DIDN'T STORE THEM AND TREAT THEM, THE SFPD WOULD'VE HAD TO CART THEM ALL TO THE RAFT INSTEAD.
AND NOBODY WANTS THAT, RIGHT?
...EMMA?
EMMA FROST, IS THAT YOU?

IT IS YOU. I CAN--
--I KNOW IT'S YOU. BUT YOU'RE...YOU'RE IN YOUR DIAMOND FORM...
YOUR THOUGHTS ARE PROTECTED BUT YOU CAN'T THINK BACK...

YES.
YES, THAT'S RIGHT.

I CAN HEAR... I CAN HEAR EVERYTHING THEY'RE SAYING.
FORGIVE ME FOR EAVESDROPPING, EMMA, OF COURSE...
BUT THEY'RE LYING. THEY'RE KILLING HENRY. HE'S HERE. ASK TO SEE HENRY!

WHAT ABOUT MUTANTS WITH PERMANENT PHYSICAL MUTATIONS?
McCOY. LET ME SEE McCOY.

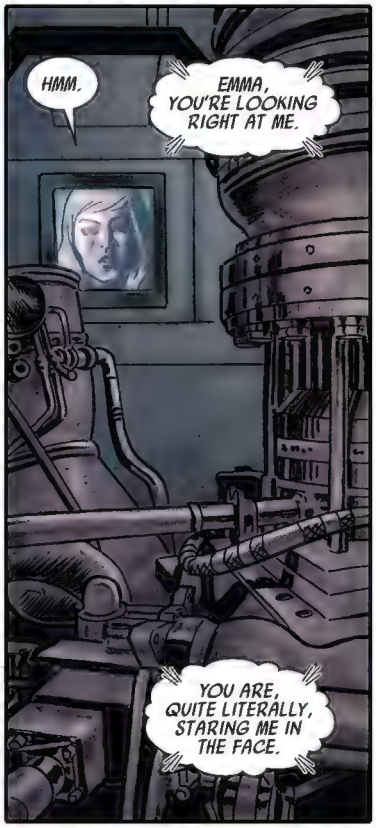
...

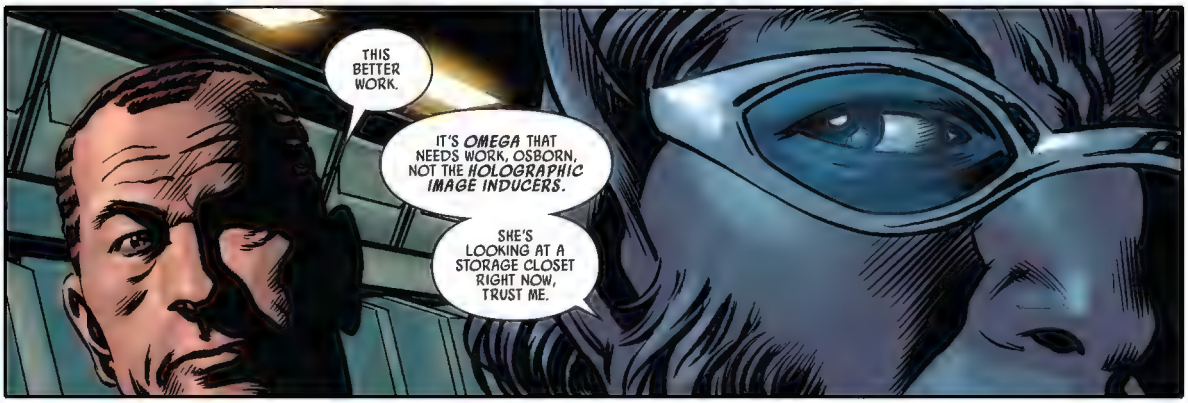
WE DON'T HAVE McCOY HERE.
WHY WOULD YOU THINK THAT?

HE WAS OUT IN THE RIOT. THE FIRST ONE. WE'VE NOT SEEN HIM SINCE.
I ASSUMED HE'D BEEN ARRESTED.
WE DON'T HAVE HIM. MAYBE SFPD...
HE'S IN THE CELL NEXT TO ME.
LOOK FOR HIM, EMMA! SEE WHAT THEY'RE DOING TO HIM WITH YOUR OWN EYES.

WHO'S IN THOSE CELLS?
WHO ARE IN ALL OF THESE CELLS? I WANT A FULL DOSSIER.

EMPTY.
EQUIPMENT STORAGE, TRUTH BE TOLD. TAKE A LOOK.
AND WE'LL GET YOU THAT DOSSIER, EMMA, JUST AS SOON AS EVERYONE'S *PROCESSED*.


HMM.
EMMA, YOU'RE LOOKING RIGHT AT ME.
YOU ARE, QUITE LITERALLY, STARING ME IN THE FACE.


THIS BETTER WORK.
IT'S *OMEGA* THAT NEEDS WORK, OSBORN, NOT THE *HOLOGRAPHIC IMAGE INDUCERS*.
SHE'S LOOKING AT A STORAGE CLOSET RIGHT NOW, TRUST ME.

I BELIEVE YOU.
EVERYTHING'S GOING TO WORK OUT FOR THE BEST.

ST. FRANCIS HOSPITAL
MY PEOPLE.
IF YOU'RE HEARING MY VOICE NOW, IT'S BECAUSE YOU TOOK MY MESSAGE INTO YOUR HEART AND INTO YOUR LIFE.
IN THE PAST 24 HOURS NORMAN OSBORN HAS ACTUALLY SANCTIONED A TEAM OF MUTANTS AND ENTRUSTED THEM WITH RESTORING LAW AND ORDER. THESE, HE TELLS US...
THESE ARE GOOD MUTANTS.
SIMON TRASK—LEADER OF THE HUMANITY NOW! COALITION. HUMAN SENTINEL ZERO.
WELL, I SAY THE ONLY GOOD MUTANT IS DEAD OR DYING. AND SO NOW I SAY:
RISE.
RISE AND DESTROY!
DESTROY IT ALL!

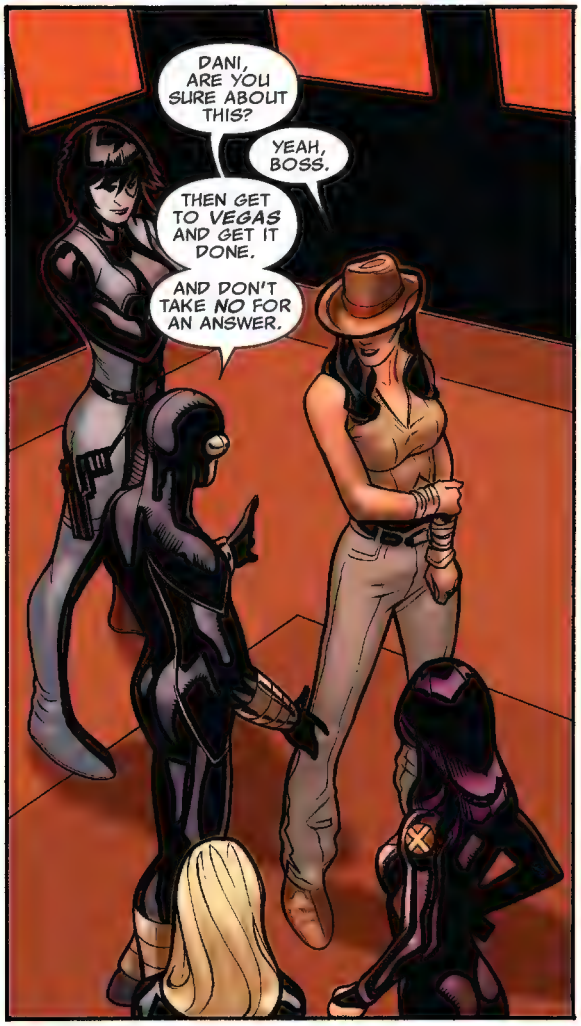
UNCANNY X-MEN #514
"UTOPIA PART 4"

THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS.
THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS TO MUTATION AND IMPURITY WHEN IT GOES UNCHECKED.
"WE ASKED, THEN PLEADED, THEN BEGGED. WE MARCHED ARM IN ARM, LOCKSTEP WITH OUR FELLOW MAN, FOR A BETTER, CLEANER TOMORROW.
"YOU IGNORED US. YOU CALLED US BIGOTS AND BELIEVED US EXTREMISTS."
THE BLOODLINE MUST BE PURGED.
THE GENE POOL, CLEANSED OF IMPURE--
IT'S BAD, RIGHT?
IT LOOKS PRETTY BAD.
SCOTT SUMMERS– CYCLOPS. OPTIC FORCE BLASTS. UNBEATABLE PLANS.

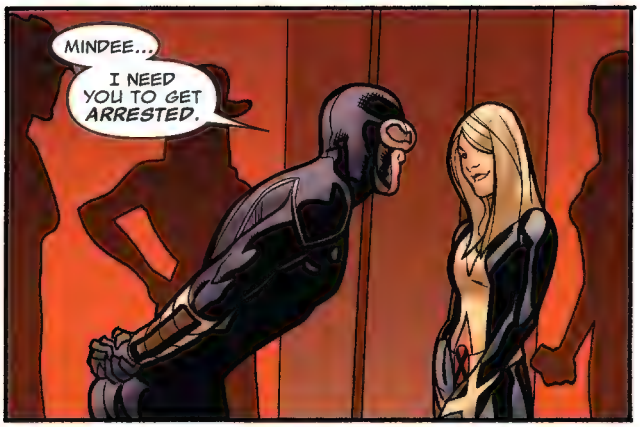
GRAYMALKIN INDUSTRIES
MARIN, CA:
IT'S OKAY. EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE OKAY.
I'D NORMALLY SPEAK TO EACH OF YOU INDIVIDUALLY BUT TIME IS VERY MUCH OF THE ESSENCE.
WE'RE BOXING IN A VERY SMALL RING, FOLKS, AND IT'S ABOUT TO GET INTENSE.
BETSY BRADDOCK--PSYLOCKE. TELEPATHIC, TELEKINETIC NINJA. LONG STORY.
NEENA THURMAN--DOMINO. LUCK-WARPING MERCENARY. MILD O.C.D. CASE.
MINDEE--STEPFORD CUCKOO. ONE PART OF THE THREE-IN-ONE CUCKOO HIVEMIND. FIRST NAME ACTUALLY "IRMA."
DANI MOONSTAR--MIRAGE. DEPOWERED MUTANT; DEPOSED VALKYRIE.
WE'RE ABOUT TO MAKE THE SHIFT FROM DEFENSE AND OBSERVATION TO OFFENSE.
YOU ALL PLAY KEY PARTS IN MY STRATEGY.
DANI, THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE TO PULL OUT. ARE YOU SURE YOU--
I'M SORRY, IS SHE WEARING A WETSUIT?
WHY IS SHE WEARING A WETSUIT?
BECAUSE I'VE BEEN SWIMMING.

NEENA, WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR QUESTIONS.
I'M BORROWING X-23 FOR A LITTLE BIT THIS MORNING, BUT WHEN WE GET BACK-- GATHER YOUR PEOPLE AND WAIT AT THE RENDEZVOUS POINT FOR LOGAN.
LOGAN'S COMING BACK? HOW? I THOUGHT OSBORN HAD THE CITY SHUT--

NEENA.
DON'T.


DANI, ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?
YEAH, BOSS.
THEN GET TO VEGAS AND GET IT DONE.
AND DON'T TAKE NO FOR AN ANSWER.

BETS?
E.T.A.?
WE'RE ON IT.
TWO, THREE DAYS.
WE NEED IT FASTER. DON'T SLEEP.


MINDEE...
I NEED YOU TO GET ARRESTED.

WHATEVER YOU SAY, MR. SUMMERS...

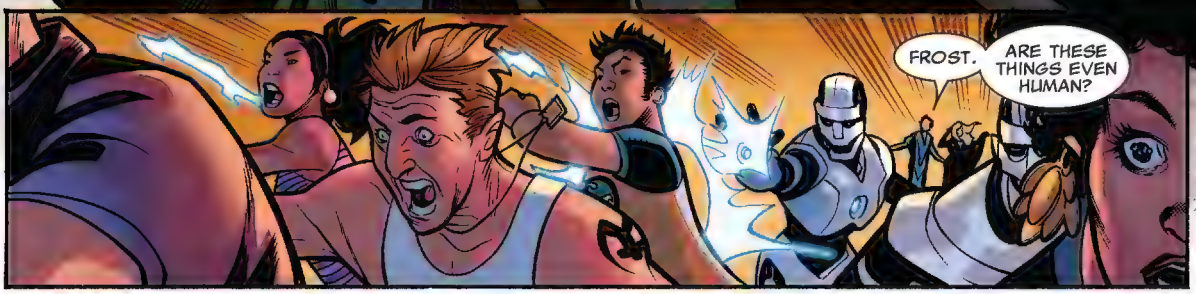
ALCATRAZ:
THAT'S RIGHT, THAT'S RIGHT, BRING IT ON YOU NANCY-BOY--
YOU AIN'T THE ONLY ONE WITH CLAWS--!
OH FOR THE LOVE OF--

HHHKKKGG--
AAAAAHHHH--
LIGHTS OUT.

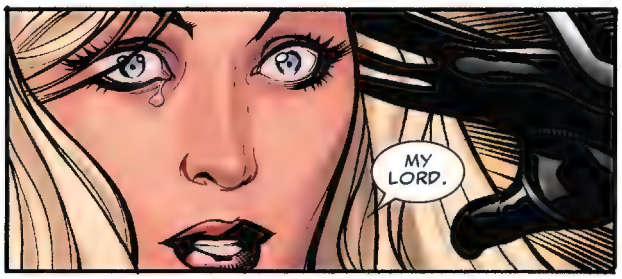
--KILL YOU--
--NOT IF I KILL YOU FIRST--
YOU'RE BLOODY CHILDREN, BOTH OF YOU.
STAND DOWN, LITTLE MAN.
HOW DARE YOU--
DON'T DO IT, DUDE. BE COOL.
YOU SERIOUS?
ENOUGH! ALL OF YOU!
THE X-MEN ARE NEEDED IN SAN FRANCISCO. THE CITY IS UNDER ATTACK AND NEEDS TO SEE HER MUTANT HEROES OUT THERE SAVING THE DAY.
AND THE WORLD AT LARGE NEEDS TO KNOW THE AVENGERS HAVE OUR BACKS.
THIS IS WAR, YOU CRETINS--
--AND YOU'RE EITHER WITH US OR AGAINST US.
MAKE UP YOUR MINDS AND GET OUT OF THE WAY.
SEE YOU 'ROUND.
GOT THAT RIGHT, PUNK.

NORTHERN PARK:
10011 01111 10001
"SOME OF TRASK'S PEOPLE HAVE... MUTATED...INTO SOME KIND OF BIOMECHANICAL ABOMINATION.
"THEY APPEAR TO BE RECEIVING ORDERS TELEPATHICALLY FROM HIM. H.A.M.M.E.R. IS TRACKING DOWN HIS EXACT LOCATION.
"PRELIMINARY REPORTS SUGGEST THESE BIOSENTINELS CAN FIRE SOME KIND OF ENERGY BLAST FROM THEIR PALMS BUT THIS TENDS TO BE FATAL TO THE HOST--SOMETHING LIKE A BEE STING--SO BE MINDFUL."
CIVILIANS FIRST, HOSTILES SECOND, PROPERTY LAST.
THE WHOLE WORLD IS WATCHING, CHILDREN. BE AMAZING.

CLOAK, DAGGER. CIVILIANS IN THAT BUILDING.
ON IT.
WOLVERINE, MIMIC-- HOSTILES TO MY THREE.
YEAH.


FROST.
ARE THESE THINGS EVEN HUMAN?

I...
THEIR MINDS ARE...


MY LORD.

WHATEVER TRASH INFECTED THEM WITH HAS *KILLED THEM.* THESE THINGS ARE NO LONGER HUMAN. THEY'RE NO LONGER TECHNICALLY ALIVE.
STOP THEM HOWEVER YOU DEEM APPROPRIATE.
IMPERIUS REX!

IS IT SAFE?
MR. SUMMERS?
PROBABLY NOT, BUT STILL...
UNTIL WE KNOW THE SITUATION IS BEING TAKEN CARE OF, WE CAN'T JUST SIT ON OUR HANDS AND HOPE FOR THE BEST.
I GUESS I JUST--
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO. NOBODY DOES. AND--
IF YOU GUYS GET CAUGHT OUT THERE, AREN'T YOU JUST, LIKE, GONNA GET ARRESTED OR WHATEVER?
PEOPLE ARE DYING, MEGAN.
WE DON'T KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT EMMA'S TEAM TO TRUST THEY'LL DEAL WITH IT.
EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE OKAY.
"PEOPLE OF SAN FRANCISCO-- TRY NOT TO BE ALARMED.
"WE'RE THE GOOD GUYS."

THIS IS EMMA FROST ON BEHALF OF NORMAN OSBORN AND H.A.M.M.E.R. WE ARE NOW ON-SITE.
BE CALM AND STAY SAFE.
WE'RE HIGHLY TRAINED PROFESSIONALS AND CATASTROPHIC OUTBREAKS LIKE THESE ARE OUR SPECIALTY.
AFTER ALL...
WE'RE THE X-MEN.
THERE'S NOTHING HUMAN HERE AT ALL.
TRASK'S INFECTION HAS STOLEN THEIR VERY HUMANITY. BIOLOGICAL OR OTHERWISE.
HUMANITY IS OVERRATED.
THEN DARLING...
YOU'RE FIGHTING FOR THE WRONG SIDE.

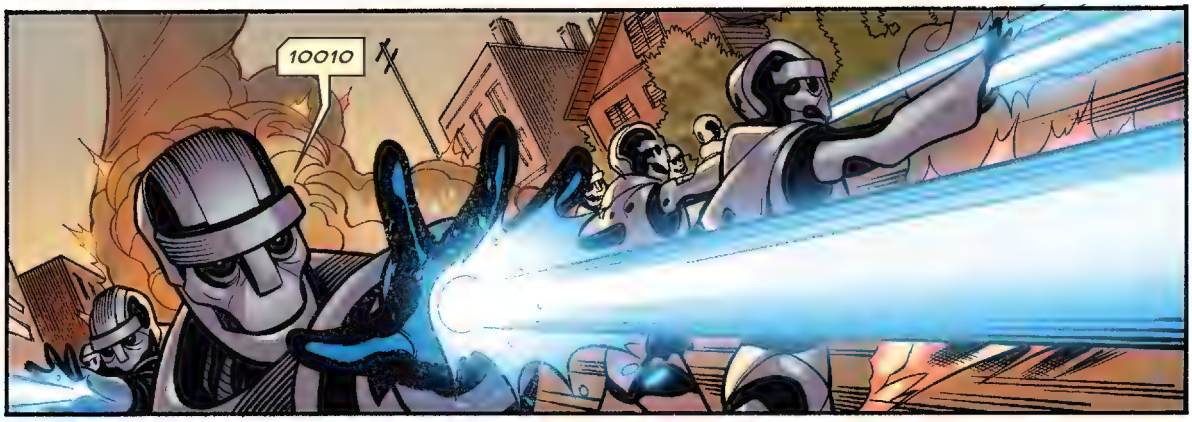
EVER GET THE FEELING WE'RE FIGHTING THE RIGHT WAR WITH THE WRONG PEOPLE?
WE DIDN'T EXACTLY HAVE A CHOICE.
THEY DIDN'T GIVE US ANY OTHER OPTIONS.
WE COULD RUN.
WE CAN'T, TANDY. NOT ANYMORE.
IT'S WHAT WE DO. IT'S WHAT WE ALWAYS DO. WE RUN NOW AND WE'LL BE RUNNING FOREVER...
IS IT WORTH TAUNTING YOU, I WONDER?
DO YOU ABOMINATIONS EVEN UNDERSTAND ENGLISH ANYMORE? OR ANY LANGUAGE, FOR THAT MATTER?

DOESN'T MATTER.
YOU'RE DEAD ALL THE SAME.
HEY--
HEY!!
DAMMIT.
YOU KNOW, IT'S INTERESTING.
WHATEVER THIS *INFECTION* IS THAT'S TURNED YOU INTO THIS MONSTER....IT'S A KIND OF *MUTATION*.

THE MAN THAT HATES MUTANTS...
MADE HIMSELF A MUTANT ARMY.
DO YOU UNDERSTAND THAT, YA DUMB BIGOT?
WHERE IS HE?
WHERE IS TRA--
YOU'RE WASTING YOUR TIME.
ABSOLUTELY NOT. AS LONG AS THERE WAS A HUMAN SOUL IN THERE SOMEWHERE I COULD'VE REACHED IT-- I COULD'VE REASONED--
YOU CAN'T REASON WITH THE DEAD.
WE'RE ALL DEAD. DON'T YOU SEE THAT?
WE'RE DEAD. WE'RE DEAD AND THIS IS HELL.

WELCOME
TO Fabulous
LAS VEGAS
NEVADA
YOUR BOSS IS EXPECTING ME.
WELL. I'M HERE.
LASCIATE OGNI SPERANZA VOI CH'ENTRATE
LET'S MAKE A DEAL.

X NORTHEAST:
...YOU'RE SURE THE BIKES ARE SAFE?
WORTHINGTON INDUSTRIES OWNS THE BUILDING. NOBODY COMES IN UNLESS ANGEL GAVE 'EM A KEY.
YOU'RE THE SQUAD I'VE PUT TOGETHER TO TAKE OUT EMMA'S GANG.
EACH ONE OF YOU CHOSEN SPECIFICALLY.
NOW LOOK DOWN THERE AND TELL ME WHAT YOU SEE.
SHOULDN'T WE BE DOWN THERE TRYING TO STOP THOSE MONSTERS?
WE GET SPOTTED, NORTHSTAR, AND WE GET DISAPPEARED. NOT ARRESTED. NOT DETAINED. DISAPPEARED.
THE PICO-SECOND IT LOOKS LIKE EMMA'S GROUP DOESN'T HAVE THIS SIEGE UNDER CONTROL, WE GET INVOLVED. DISAPPEARING BE DAMNED.
BUT RIGHT NOW IT'D BE A POINTLESS SACRIFICE.
YOU NEED TO OBSERVE THIS TEAM.
FIND YOUR MARK. WATCH HOW THEY MOVE; STUDY HOW THEY THINK IN THE HEAT OF BATTLE.
"THIS IS HOMEWORK.
"STUDY HARD."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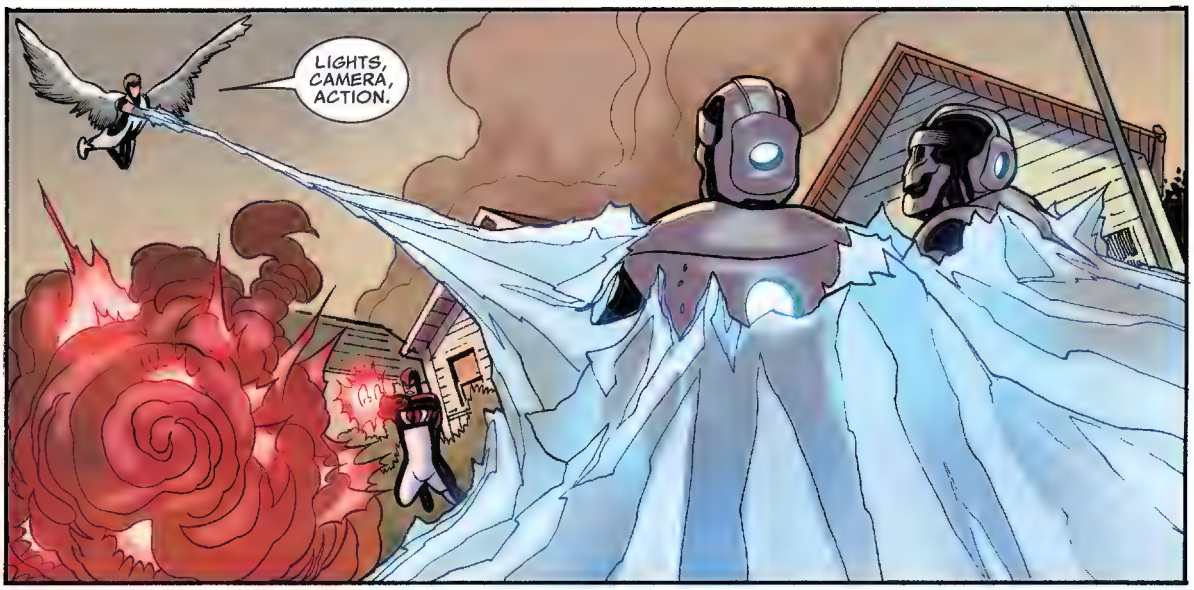
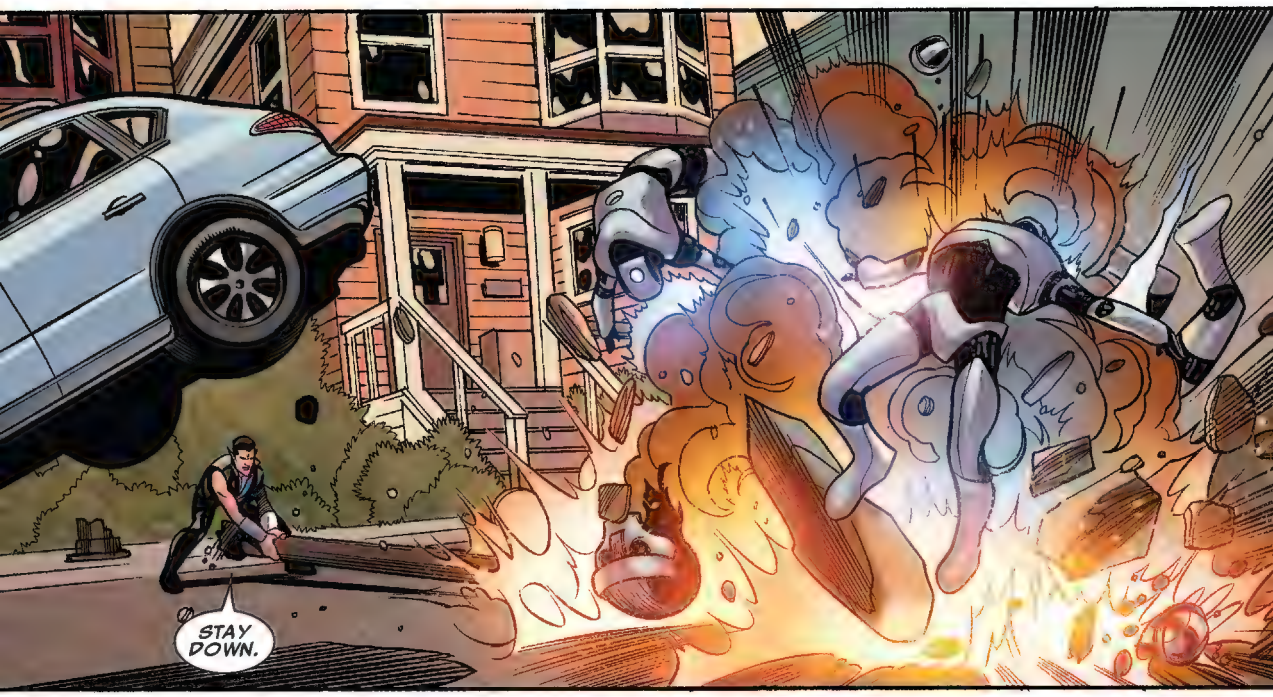
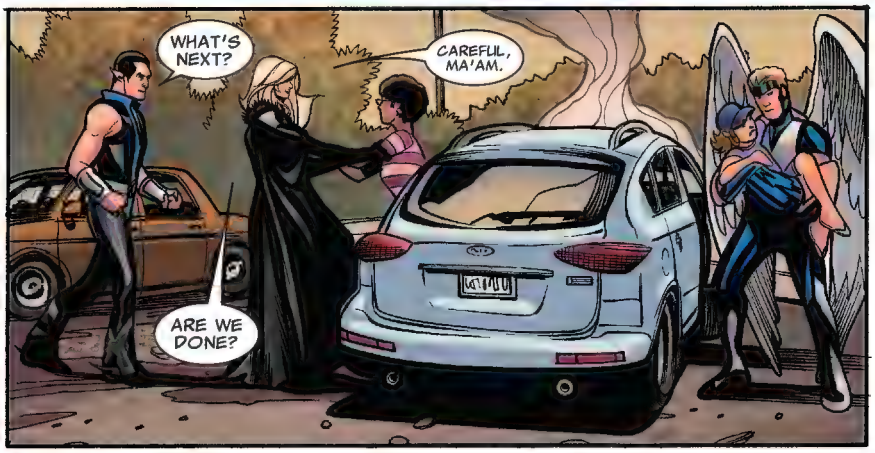
THERE'S A CLOCK TICKING SOMEWHERE, DARLINGS, AND WE CAN'T HEAR IT.
WE NEED TO FIGHT OUR WAY UP THE FOOD CHAIN.


LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION.

GGRRRRAAA--
YAH!
THEY DON'T SEEM TO BE FIGHTING ANY SMARTER.
GOOD.


STAY DOWN.

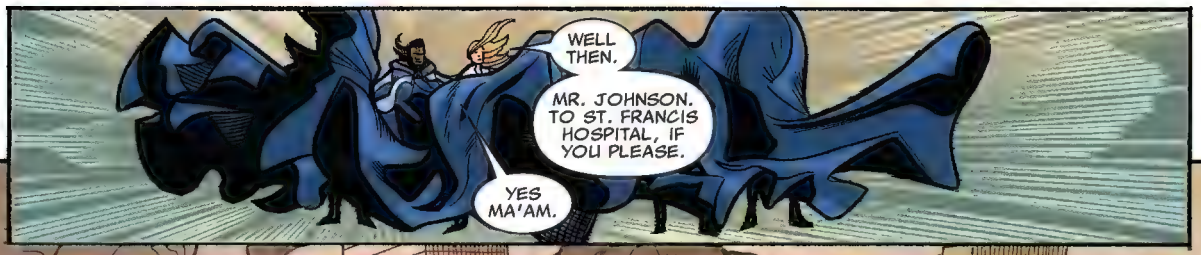
FROST?
DON'T BE AFRAID. YOU'RE SAFE NOW.


WHAT'S NEXT?
CAREFUL, MA'AM.
ARE WE DONE?

ON THE CONTRARY.
I'D SAY YOUR TEAM IS ONLY JUST GETTING WARMED UP.

WELL LET'S TELL THE BOSS THE GOOD NEWS...
FROST TO H.A.M.M.E.R. WEST--WE'VE SHUT DOWN THE OUTBREAK IN NORTHERN PARK.
WHERE TO NOW?

MS. FROST, NICE TO HEAR FROM YOU.
TRASK'S LAST KNOWN LOCATION WAS ST. FRANCIS HOSPITAL AND IT SEEMS THE ATTACK IS BEING DIRECTED FROM THERE.
ALL OF OUR INTEL SUGGESTS THAT IF THIS PARTICULAR HURRICANE HAS AN EYE, THAT'S IT.


WELL THEN.
MR. JOHNSON. TO ST. FRANCIS HOSPITAL, IF YOU PLEASE.
YES MA'AM.

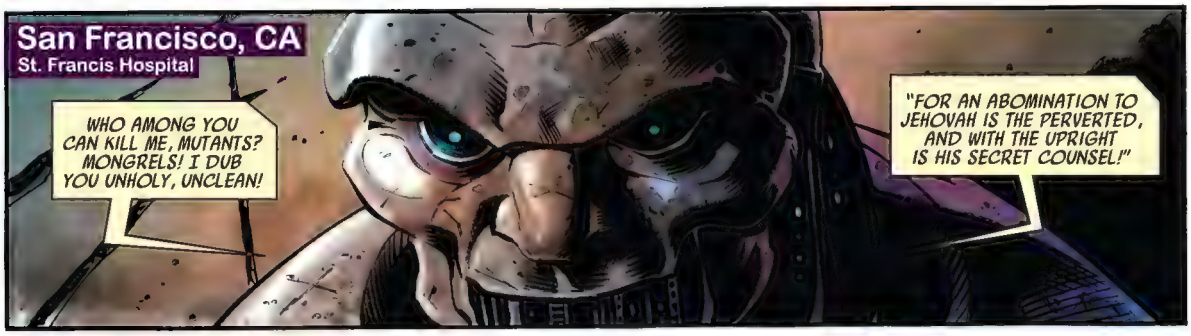
CIVILIANS PROTECTED, THE INJURED WERE EVACUATED, AND NOT A SINGLE HOSTILE LEFT STANDING.
MAN...
THESE GUYS ARE GOOD.
YES THEY ARE.
AND THIS IS HOW WE BEAT THEM.
IT'S NOT SUPERIOR NUMBERS. IT'S NOT POWERS, IT'S NOT DIVIDE AND CONQUER.
IT'S US. IT'S ALL OF US.
THEY WERE ALL FIGHTING ALONE. TOGETHER, BUT ALONE.
AND WE FIGHT AS ONE.
WE FIGHT TOGETHER... TOGETHER.
AND BELIEVING IN ONE ANOTHER, TRUSTING YOUR TEAM, AND ACTING ACCORDINGLY?
THEY'LL NEVER SEE IT COMING.
CYCLOPS-- SCOTT--
EVEN IF WE ALL GET LUCKY AND OUTFIGHT EMMA'S TEAM...
THE SECOND WE ATTACK THEM, OSBORN'S ONLY GOING TO CALL IN HIS AVENGERS, RIGHT?
I MEAN... HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO STOP THEM?
WHO SAID YOU'RE THE SQUAD THAT'S SUPPOSED TO STOP THE AVENGERS, BOBBY?

BAY OF OAKLAND:
SO, UH...
DO YOU GUYS, UH, WORK TOGETHER A LOT OR SOMETHING? DO YOU--
JAMES.
WHERE WERE YOU?
STUDYING.
SAY WHAT?
DO NOT WORRY YOURSELF.
YEAH, WHY WOULD I BE WORRIED? CYCLOPS GAVE US THESE COORDINATES TO WAIT FOR WOLVERINE TO SHOW UP AND DIDN'T BOTHER TO SPECIFY A TIME OR A--
THERE.
ILLYANA. SORRY TO DRAG YOU INTO THIS.
BUT WE NEED YOU.
WE'RE GOING TO GET OUR PEOPLE BACK.

JUST OFF THE PACIFIC COAST:
X-SUB, YOU SHOULD BE COMING TOWARDS YOUR DESTINATION NOW.
ROGER THAT, DR. TAKIGUCHI.
WE'LL KEEP OUR EYES PEELED.
JEFFRIES, HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE YOU TO INSTALL?
FOUR, FIVE HOURS. FOUR IF WE'RE LUCKY AND IT WORKS FIRST TIME OUT.
IT TOOK US THREE DAYS TO MAKE IT. WE NEED THREE MORE AFTER THIS.
DO YOU GUYS REALLY THINK WE CAN PULL THIS OFF?
THIS IS THE END OF THE X-MEN IN CALIFORNIA, JEFFRIES.
WE DON'T HAVE A CHOICE.

DARK AVENGERS #8
"UTOPIA PART 5"

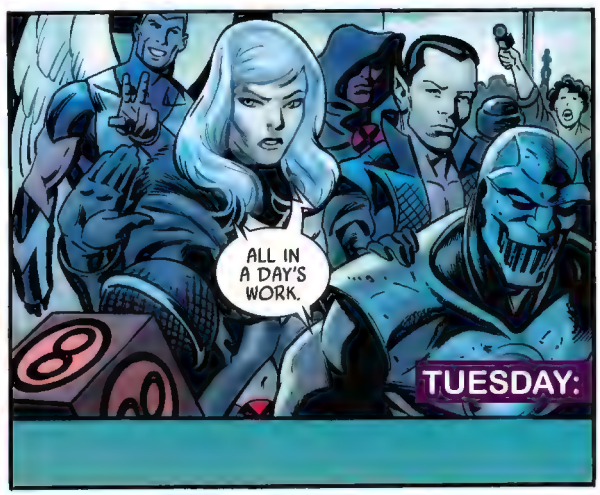
LAS VEGAS, NV
THE INFERNO CLUB
ALLOW ME--FOR OUR MUTUAL BENEFIT--TO REVIEW THESE LAST FEW MOMENTS.
YOUR SITUATION IS SO DIRE THAT YOU'VE SOUGHT OUT HELA, THE QUEEN OF HEL HERSELF, TO ASK OF ME A BOON:
KNOWING FULL WELL IT DOES NOT COME FOR FREE.
YOU'RE SURE YOU CAN SHOULDER THE BURDEN, MISS MOONSTAR?
I'VE GOT STRONG SHOULDERS.
I'LL NEED A NEW RIDE HOME AND A BIG OL' SWORD.


San Francisco, CA
St. Francis Hospital
WHO AMONG YOU CAN KILL ME, MUTANTS? MONGRELS! I DUB YOU UNHOLY, UNCLEAN!
"FOR AN ABOMINATION TO JEHOVAH IS THE PERVERTED, AND WITH THE UPRIGHT IS HIS SECRET COUNSEL!"

UNCLEAN!
UN-HUMAN!
YOUR KIND IS THE END OF THE HUMAN RACE!

YOU'RE DONE, SON.
AND GOOD RIDDANCE.
SNIKT

...LIVE AT THE SCENE NOW, WHERE IT APPEARS THE--THE--
WELL, THAT THE X-MEN HAVE SUBDUED SIMON TRASK AND PUT AN END TO THE ASSAULT WAVE OF WHAT H.A.M.M.E.R. HAS DUBBED "BIO-SENTINELS..."

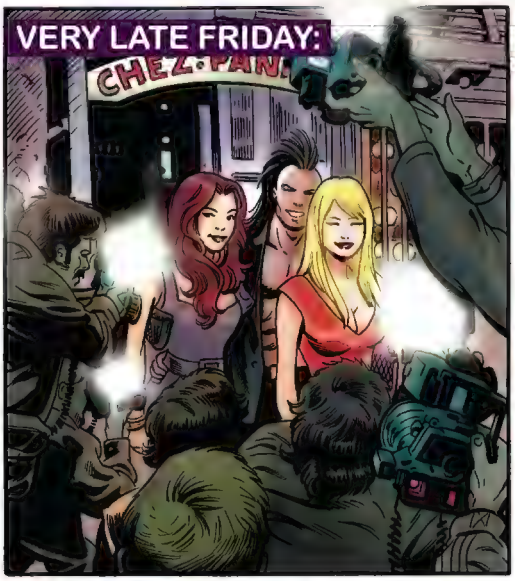

ALL IN A DAY'S WORK.
TUESDAY:

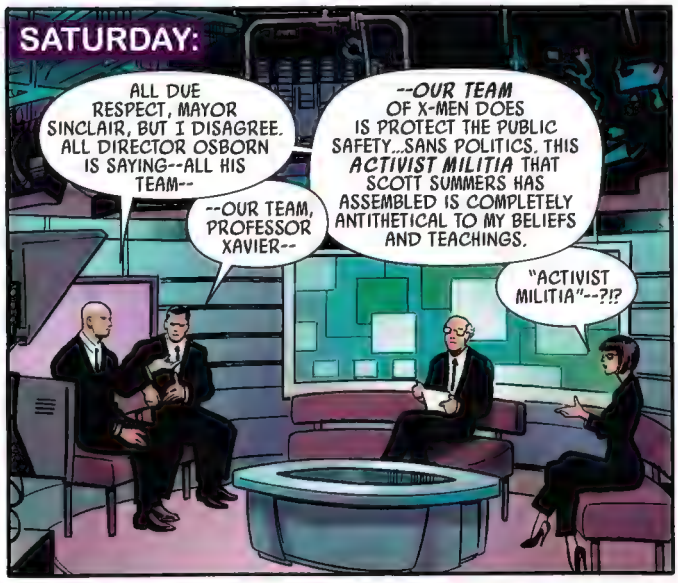
WEDNESDAY:

STOP, IN THE NAME OF THE LAW!
AAAAAHHH!

THURSDAY:

VERY EARLY FRIDAY:


VERY LATE FRIDAY:


SATURDAY:
ALL DUE RESPECT, MAYOR SINCLAIR, BUT I DISAGREE. ALL DIRECTOR OSBORN IS SAYING--ALL HIS TEAM--
--OUR TEAM, PROFESSOR XAVIER--
--OUR TEAM OF X-MEN DOES IS PROTECT THE PUBLIC SAFETY...SANS POLITICS. THIS ACTIVIST MILITIA THAT SCOTT SUMMERS HAS ASSEMBLED IS COMPLETELY ANTITHETICAL TO MY BELIEFS AND TEACHINGS.
"ACTIVIST MILITIA"--?!?

WELL, I THINK IT'S SAFE TO SAY WE JUST GOT THE MAYOR UNELECTED.
SO NOW WHAT'S THE PLAN?
WE KEEP TAKING IT.

AND THE SECOND HANK'S SCIENCE TEAM CHECKS IN, LET ME KNOW.

SUNDAY:

ALCATRAZ
...THE OMEGA MACHINE THUS GENTLY DRAINS THE MUTANT POWER SOURCE AND PROVIDES A FEEDING MECHANISM FOR OUR DEAR MR. POINTER.
YES.
AS YOU CAN SEE IT'S NOT YET COMPLETELY PAINLESS BUT WE'RE GETTING THERE...
EVEN A VACCINE COMES WITH A PIN PRICK...
OH MY GOD. IT'S TORTURE.
TY, WE--WE CAN'T BE A PART OF THIS, WE'VE MADE A MISTAKE, WE--
NOT NOW, TANDY. NOT HERE. JUST STAY COOL, OKAY?
TRY TO STAY COOL.
PACK UP, TEAM. YOU'RE BACK TO THE EAST COAST TOMORROW MORNING.
YOU GOTTA BE @%#$ KIDDING ME.
I ASSURE YOU I'M NOT. I THINK IT'S FAIR TO SAY MS. FROST'S X-MEN ARE GETTING THE CITY UNDER CONTROL AND I THINK THE PUBLIC WOULD VIEW THE AVENGERS HEADING HOME AS A BIG VOTE OF CONFIDENCE IN HER FAVOR.
AND I'M NOT ASKING. TOMORROW MORNING.
WE AIN'T DONE YET, MUTIES.
WE AIN'T EVEN GOTTEN STARTED...

BAY OF OAKLAND
X-MEN SCIENCE TEAM

DR. JEFFRIES?
IT'S JUST MISTER, PSYLOCKE. AND MADISON IS PREFERABLE STILL.

MADISON... DO YOU REALLY THINK THIS IS GOING TO WORK?
IT WORKS ON PAPER. AND I KNOW THE MACHINES WILL DO WHAT WE NEED THEM TO DO.
SO, MECHANICALLY? YES. YES, IT WILL WORK.

I KNOW YOU DID.
I MEANT THE PLAN.

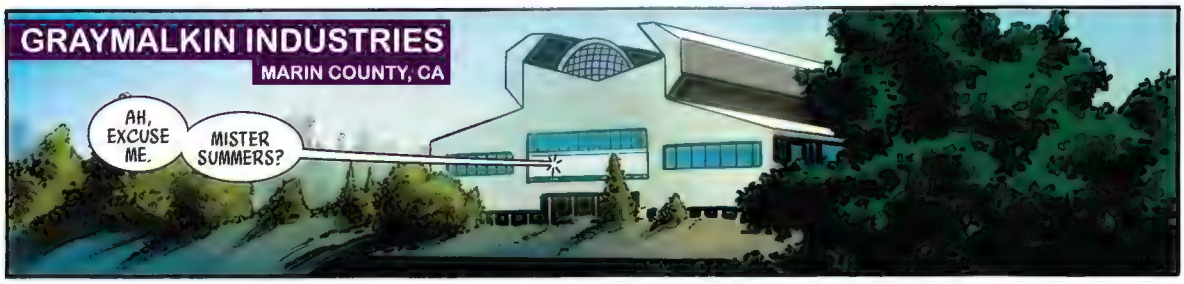
WELL?
WELL WHAT? IT'S DONE.
THEY'RE ALL INSTALLED AND READY FOR ACTIVATION.
THEN LET'S STOP BLOODY TALKING AND TURN THEM ON.
I'M SORRY. I'M SO TIRED. IT'S GETTING THE BETTER OF ME.
KAVITA-- DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. WE'RE ALL RUNNING ON FUMES.
WELL, FUMES AND WEIRD SCIENCE CHEMICALS...
THERE.
IT WORKS. ENGINES ONE THROUGH FIVE ARE ALL ONLINE AND OPERATIONAL.
AHH, DAMMIT.
X-CLUB TO GRAYMALKIN.
ENGINES ARE GO. WE'RE READY.

ALCATRAZ
...AFTER ALL, IT'S A FLOATING PRISON.
CAN YOU BLAME ME? THE PLACE WAS DESIGNED FOR THIS SORT OF THING.
YOU...WERE DESIGNED FOR THIS SORT OF THING.
YES, YES, YOU'RE SO SMART. YOU'RE SO CLEVER.
WILL YOU PLEASE JUST SHUT UP AND FLIP THE SWITCH--
SHALL YOU TWO OLD WOMEN ACTUALLY BE TORTURING ME TODAY?
OR DO YOU JUST PLAN ON BEING CATTY UNTIL THE COWS COME HOME?
ARROOW!
YES YES YES YESSSSS
MORE. NOW. MORE!
I KNOW, I KNOW.
YOU'RE WORSE THAN A CHILD, MICHAEL, I SWEAR...

A STUPID... MEWLING...
...OBNOXIOUS LITTLE CHILD...
THE HELL?
NO--NO. IT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
HOW--
THEY'RE ALL GONE--
TAKING TOO LONG!
I NEED MORE JUICE, DAMMIT!
...
SNF
SNF

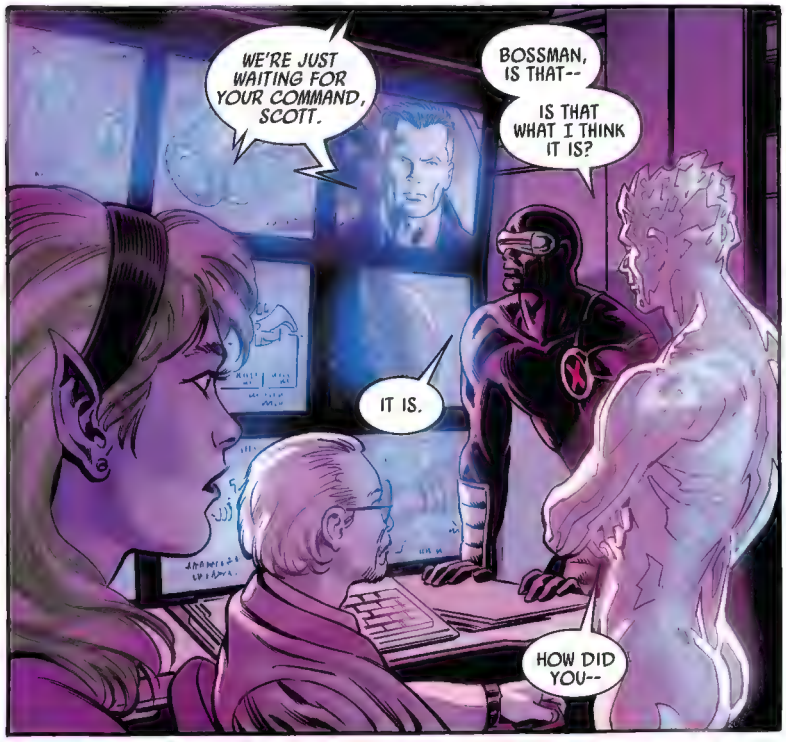
I LED THEM RIGHT TO YOUR LITTLE TORTURE CAMP, YOU SICKENING NAZI THUG.
NOBODY EVER TAKES THE HOT LITTLE BLONDE SERIOUSLY.
SUPPOSE I SHOULD TELL YOU WE CAN DO THIS QUIET OR LOUD.
AN' I HOPE TO GOD YOU CHOOSE LOUD.
SNIKT!
OMEGA!!!
GGRRAA--
GET THE REST OF THE TEAM DOWN HERE NOW--!
AH.
OF COURSE.

...IT'S ALL ABOUT THE MASTER PLAN, M'BOY. AND IF YOU DON'T HAVE FAITH IN IT--
OSBORN, IF YOU THINK THESE MUTIE FREAKS ARE GOING TO JUST LIE DOWN AN'--
DIRECTOR OSBORN!
SOMETHING'S GOING ON WITH THE MUTANTS IN THE HOLDING CELLS!
I TOLD YOU SO.
THIS IS *IT*.
HOLD FAST, AVENGERS. IT APPEARS MY ENTHUSIASM MAY HAVE BEEN PREMATURE.
WE'LL GIVE FROST'S TEAM THEIR SHOT.
THEN YOU'LL COME IN TO BAT *CLEANUP*.

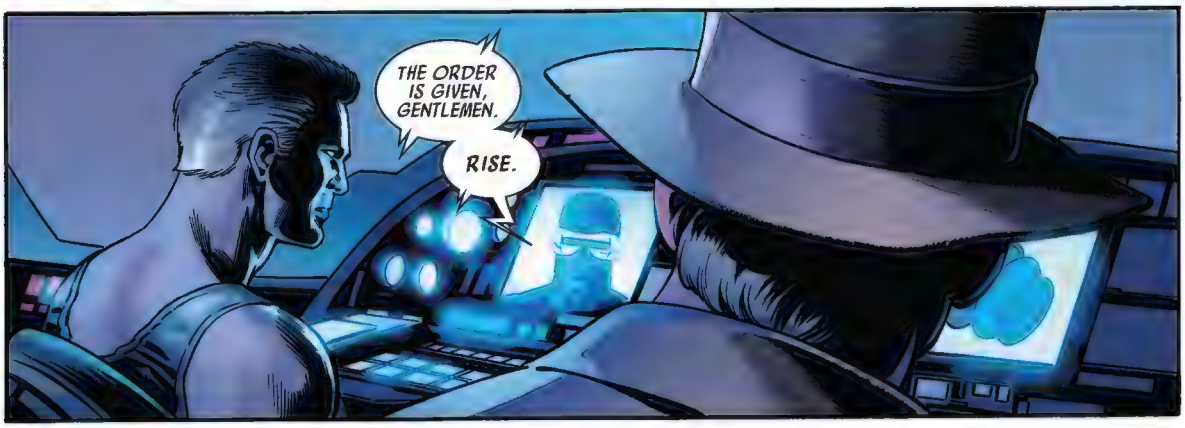

GRAYMALKIN INDUSTRIES
MARIN COUNTY, CA
AH, EXCUSE ME.
MISTER SUMMERS?

I'VE HEARD FROM MY ASSOCIATES IN THE X-CLUB, SIR.
THE PROJECT IS A SUCCESS.
I THINK IT'S TIME THE EVACUATION TEAM ASSEMBLED IN YOUR LAB, DR. TAKIGUCHI.

...AND KURT-- GATHER EVERYONE IN YOUR CHAPEL AND KEEP 'EM CALM. I'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU IN THE FIELD FOR THIS, BUT--
TENDING TO A FLOCK IS JUST AS IMPORTANT, SCOTT. I UNDERSTAND.


WE'RE JUST WAITING FOR YOUR COMMAND, SCOTT.
BOSSMAN, IS THAT--
IS THAT WHAT I THINK IT IS?
IT IS.
HOW DID YOU--

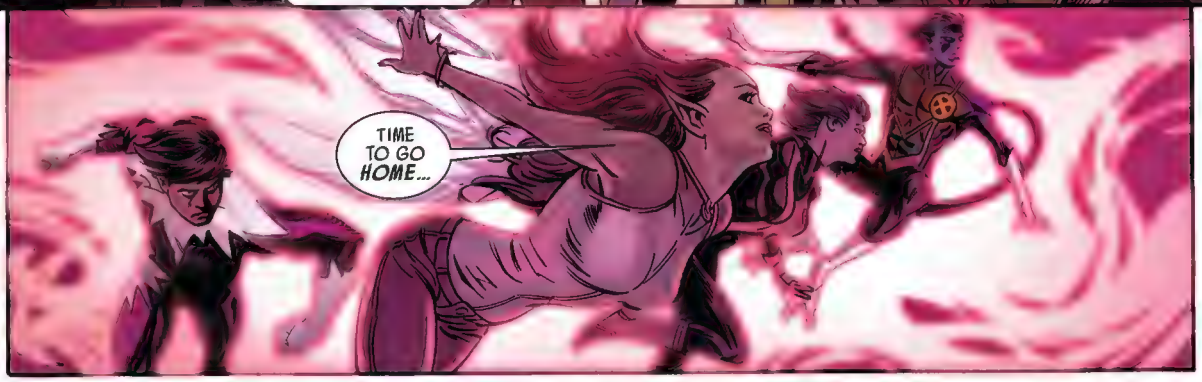
LATER, BOBBY. I'M SORRY, BUT--
BUT THIS IS IT, PEOPLE. STICK TO THE PLAN. HAVE FAITH IN THE PLAN AND IN EACH OTHER AND WE'LL WIN.
LOSE THAT TRUST FOR EVEN A SECOND AND WE LOSE EVERYTHING.


THE ORDER IS GIVEN, GENTLEMEN.
RISE.

RUN, GIRL, COME ON--!
OH, WAIT--

THIS IS IT!
CYCLOPS HAS GIVEN THE ORDER.
NIGHTCRAWLER, BOOM-BOOM, NORTHSTAR--MISTER SUMMERS SAYS YOU'RE FIRST.

MAGMA--AND COLOSSUS--YOU'LL COME NEXT. THEN EVERYBODY ELSE.
DA.
MAGIK--WHEN SHE'S DONE DOING WHATEVER SHE'S DOING--AND I WILL BE MAKING TRANSPORT RUNS UNTIL EVERYONE'S SAFE.

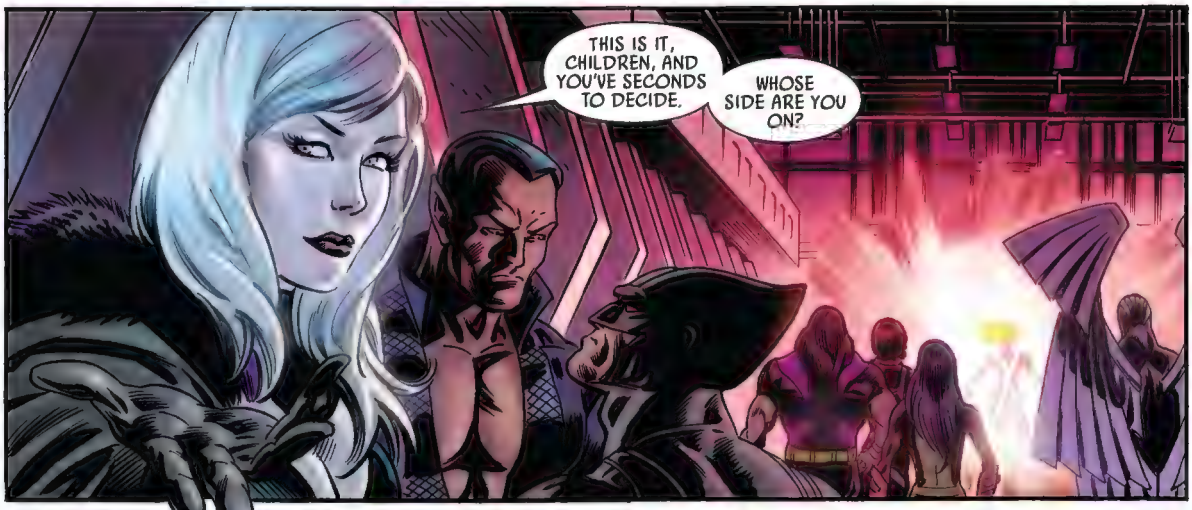

TIME TO GO HOME...

ALCATRAZ
KNEW YOU'D JUST HAVE TO RUIN IT FOR THE REST OF US.
WARPATH, YOU AND ME ON THEIR BEAST.
EVERYONE ELSE, STOP OMEGA.

RRRRRRRAAARR--
SUPERLATIVE AIM, DOMINO.
I LIVE TO GIVE.
THIS IS A CRIME AGAINST SCIENCE--!
SO ARREST ME.
KEEP LOW--
ENOUGH!
WOW, THE X-MEN.
ALWAYS WANTED TO MEET YOU GUYS UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL-LIKE.

YOU MORONS.
THERE ARE NO CAMERAS DOWN HERE. NO MEDIA TO PROTECT YOU.
WE'RE GOING TO KILL YOU ALL AND NO ONE WILL EVER KNOW.
I DON'T THINK SO.
BUT, BOY, I'LL BE DAMNED IF I DIDN'T SORTA HOPE YOU TRY.
YOU DIE LAST, OLD MAN.
AFTER WATCHING ALL YOUR FRIENDS DIE AS SLOWLY AND PAINFULLY AS WE CAN MANAGE.
OH, DO SHUT UP--
GGHHFF

WHOA, EMMA, YOU--
=PPFF=
SILENCE, WHELP.
NEVER DOUBTED YOU FOR A SECOND, GIRL...
THAT'S IT! THE PRISONERS ARE EVACUATED.
EVERYBODY THAT WANTS OFF THIS ROCK, NOW'S THE TIME TO GET TO GETTING.
WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?


THIS IS IT, CHILDREN, AND YOU'VE SECONDS TO DECIDE.
WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON?

THIS IS YOUR MOMENT, MY LITTLE RUNAWAYS.
I KNOW YOU'RE USED TO BEING HATED AND DESPISED...PERSECUTED AND MISUNDERSTOOD...AND I KNOW YOU DON'T WANT TO JOIN ANY CLUB THAT WOULD HAVE YOU FOR A MEMBER.
WE *ALL* FEEL THE SAME WAY.

IS THIS...
WHAT ARE WE DOING? WHERE ARE WE GOING?
DO YOU HAVE A PLAN?

NOT *ME*, DARLINGS...

...*SCOTT*.
SCOTT HAS A PLAN...

OSBORN, WE--
SHUT UP.
SHUT UP AND WATCH THIS.
SAN FRANCISCO BAY
UTOPIA
--JUST ROSE UP--IT ROSE UP RIGHT OUT OF THE DAMN WATER--
EMMA FROST.
NAMOR.
AND SCOTT.
@%!@#
SUMMERS.

EMMA!

SCOTT, DARLING.
THIS IS NAMOR.
EXCELLENT WORK, MAN. JUST FANTASTIC.

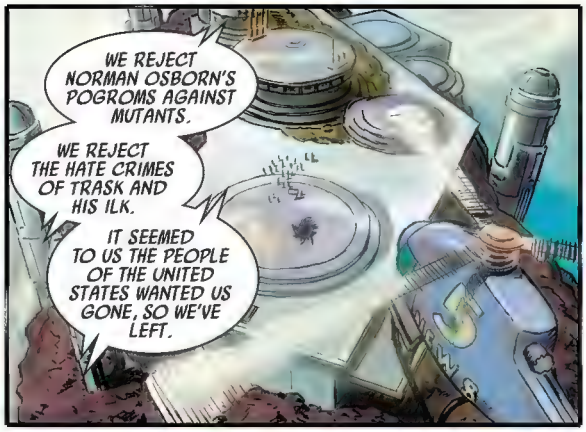
EMMA, NAMOR, CLOAK, AND DAGGER--CONTRARY TO APPEARANCES OVER THE LAST WEEK--ARE ON OUR SIDE.
THERE WILL BE TIME TO EXPLAIN EVERYTHING ONCE THE FIGHTING STOPS, SO FOR NOW ALL I CAN DO IS BEG YOU ALL TO TRUST ME.

AND TRUST THE PLAN. AND THAT TRUST WILL BE REWARDED SOON.
BAMF
--OH WOW--

I'M JUST GONNA START TALKING, OKAY?
WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME.
YOU'RE GOOD--GO--

--OMING TO YOU LIVE FROM SAN FRANCISCO BAY WITH THIS EXCLUSIVE--

DON'T BE SCARED.
I'M SCOTT SUMMERS--AND WELL, FIRST OFF YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SCARED.

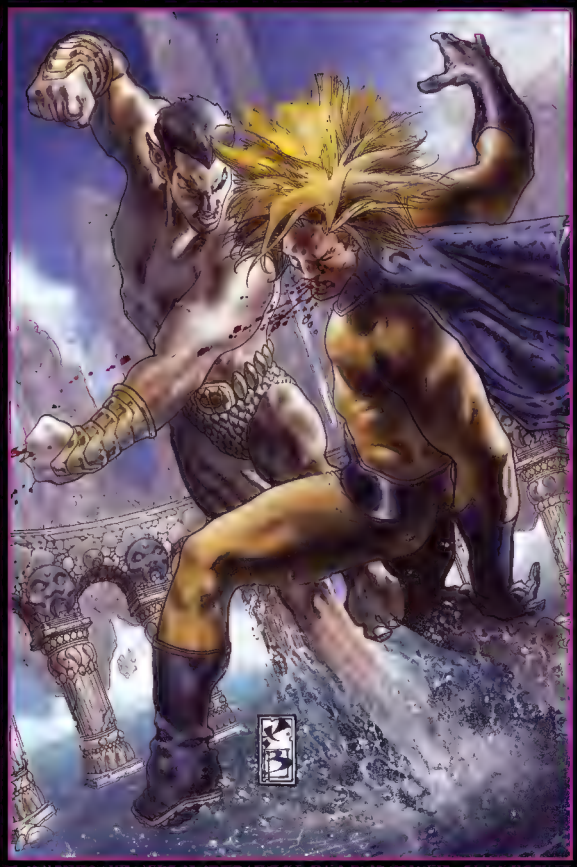

WE REJECT NORMAN OSBORN'S POGROMS AGAINST MUTANTS.
WE REJECT THE HATE CRIMES OF TRASK AND HIS ILK.
IT SEEMED TO US THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES WANTED US GONE, SO WE'VE LEFT.

BUT WE WON'T BE PUSHED, PROSECUTED, PERSECUTED, OR PUNISHED ANY FURTHER. WE SEEK PEACE AND TO LIVE PEACEFULLY.
WHATEVER HAPPENS NEXT...
...IS BEYOND OUR CONTROL.
--DAMN STRAIGHT IT IS--
BUT ALL THE SAME...

THE WHOLE WORLD IS WATCHING.

HEH.
BRING ME NAMOR'S HEAD--
AND EMMA FROST'S HEART. AND MAKE SURE SUMMERS SEES YOU DO IT.
WITH PLEASURE.

DARK AVENGERS #8 VARIANT BY
SIMONE BIANCHI, ANDREA SILVESTRI & SIMONE PERUZZI



DARK AVENGERS/UNCANNY X-MEN: EXODUS VARIANT BY
SIMONE BIANCHI

DARK AVENGERS #13 2ND-PRINTING VARIANT BY
MIKE DEODATO JR.

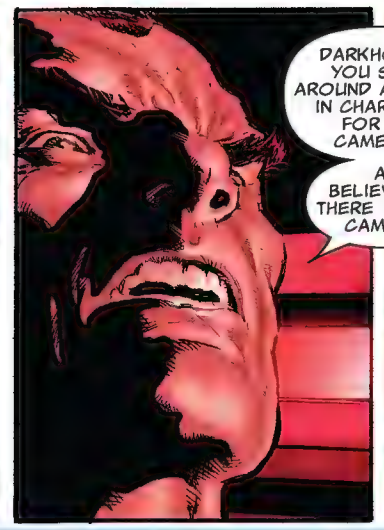
DARK AVENGERS #14 DEADPOOL VARIANT BY
MIKE DEODATO JR. & RAIN BEREDO

DARK AVENGERS/UNCANNY X-MEN: EXODUS
"UTOPIA, CONCLUSION"

7 DAYS AGO...
SECRETS, SCOTT. SECRETS, EMMA.
IN THESE TIMES-- THESE AWFUL, FRACTIOUS TIMES--
WE... ARE ALL WE HAVE LEFT.
I'M TAKING THE X-CLUB ON A MISSION COME DAYLIGHT. I EXPECT I MIGHT BE GONE SOME TIME.
BUT WHEN I GET BACK, WE'RE HAVING IT AAALL OUT, DO YOU HEAR ME?
THE SECRETS WILL KILL US.
AND I WON'T STICK AROUND TO WATCH IT HAPPEN.
WELL...
...I SUPPOSE HENRY IS QUITTING, THEN.

THIS ISN'T FUNNY, EMMA.
WE HAVE TO TALK.
I MADE SOME CHOICES, EMMA. I MADE SOME TOUGH CALLS TO PROTECT WHAT VERY LITTLE WE ALL HAVE LEFT AND--
STOP. DON'T DO THIS.
DON'T LET HENRY FORCE YOU TO DESTROY WHAT WE HAVE.
WHAT WE HAVE IS A LIE..
NO. WHAT WE HAVE ARE SECRETS, AND I CAN LIVE WITH THEM.
I CAN'T. NOT ANYMORE. PEOPLE HAVE DIED, EMMA.
DO YOU THINK I DON'T KNOW THAT?
DO YOU THINK YOU'RE ALONE IN THIS?
WE ARE ALONE IN THIS, EMMA. UNTIL WE TALK.
I CAN'T. NOT TONIGHT.
WE'RE NOT LEAVING THIS ROOM UNTIL WE DO.
I CAN'T DO THIS ALONE.
EDITOR'S NOTE: TO BE CONTINUED IN DARK X-MEN: THE CONFESSION.

NOW
1.2 MILES OFF THE COAST OF SAN FRANCISCO



WOLVERINE AND X-23--YOU'RE FIRST WAVE. TAKE OUT OMEGA AND DAKEN.
ON IT.
AS YOU WISH.
EVERYONE ELSE...
SCRAMBLE!
MY GOD... OSBORN'S DRESSED UP BULLSEYE AS A HERO.

WARREN-- THAT'S BULLSEYE. I NEED YOU TO TAKE HIM OFF THE BOARD.
YOU DON'T MEAN ME.
NO.
NO I DON'T.
--TH' HELL?

REMEMBER US?
REMEMBER THE CASTRO?
BECAUSE WE REMEMBER YOU--
YOU.
WE HAVE UNFINISHED BUSINESS.
SETTIN' ME ON FIRE IS JUST GONNA GO AN' GET ME ALL RILED UP, YA MUTIE FREAKS--
BRING IT.
REALLY, LOGAN? THE GIRL?
YOU'RE SICCING THE GIRL ON ME?

I AM NO ONE'S ATTACK DOG.
WOOF WOOF.
WHAT THING CAN KILL ME?!?
WHAT THING CAN STOP MY WRATH?!?
HEY!
GGGGRRRAAA
YOU KILLED A MESS O' MY PALS UP NORTH, BUB.
YOU DON'T GET TO WALK AWAY FROM THAT.

X MARIN COUNTY
SON OF A--
BIRD-MAN? WHERE'D YOU GO?
YOU AIN'T GONNA GET OUT OF WHAT YOU GOT COMIN'.
WHERE THE HELL DID--
I'M RIGHT HERE, YOU MURDEROUS BASTARD.
NEAT TRICK.

BIG GUNS.
OPEN FIRE.
NAMOR--
I'LL STOP THE SENTRY.
MY WORD.
WAR!
THIS IS WAR!
YOU HEARD THE MAN, SCOTTY-BOY.
LET'S NOT LET HIM DOWN.

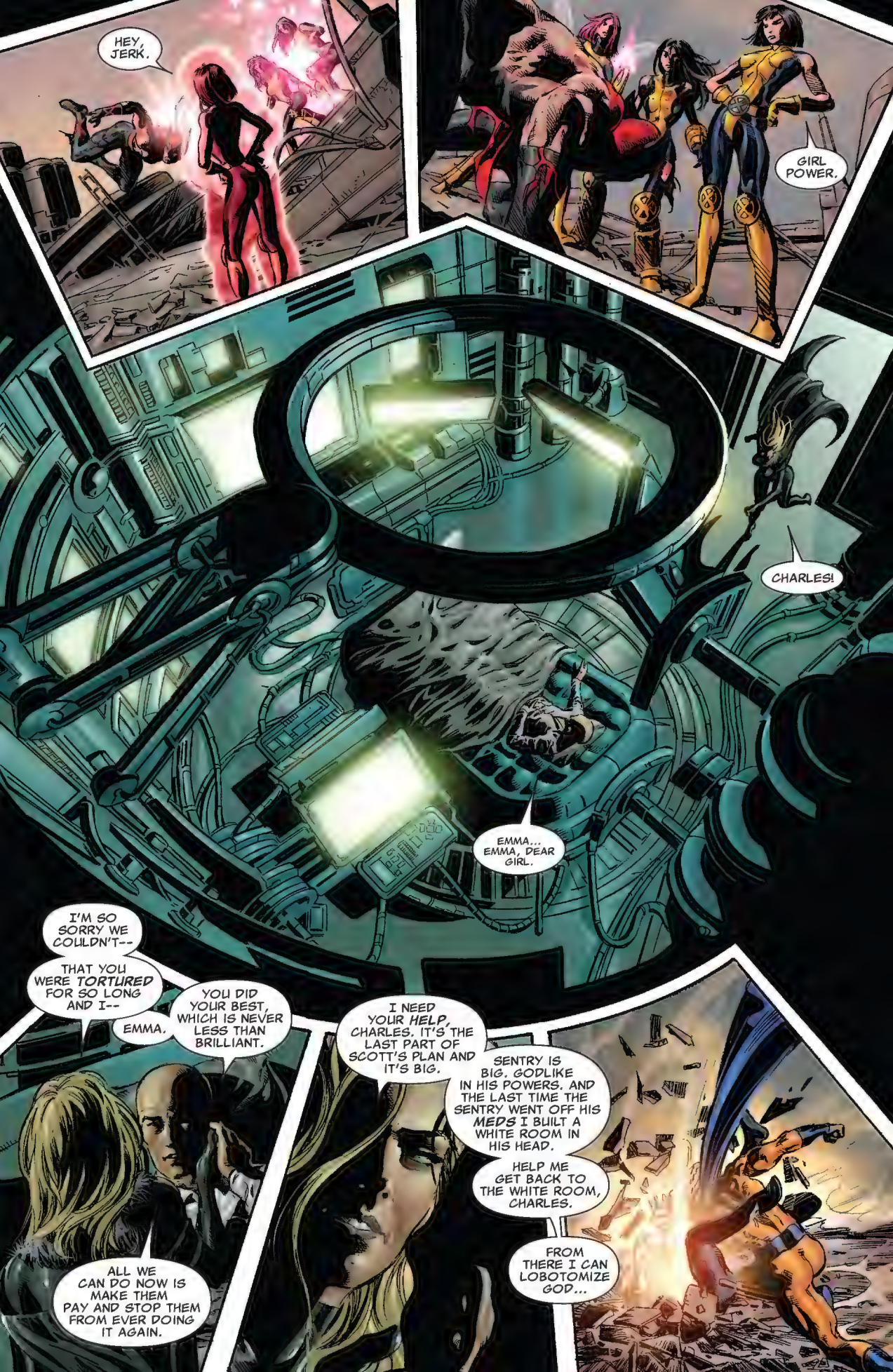
GAAH--
YOU THINK YOU CAN STOP ME, LITTLE MAN?
I THINK I SHALL TRY, YOU GIBBERING SCHIZOID.
THIS IS YOUR WAR, OSBORN.
NOT OURS.
YOU PEOPLE HAD TO GO AND MAKE ME LOOK STUPID.
YOU MIGHT NOT HAVE WANTED A WAR BUT YOU DAMN WELL GOT ONE--
AAAA

RRAAAHH!
STAND DOWN, SCOTT.
THERE IS NO VICTORY FOR YOU HERE.
"YOU WILL LOSE.
"NOT JUST YOUR TEAM-- YOUR KIND-- WILL LOSE."
OH, NORMAN.
IF ONLY YOU COULD SEE THINGS THE WAY I DO...
YOU'D HAVE ANOTHER PERSPECTIVE ENTIRELY.

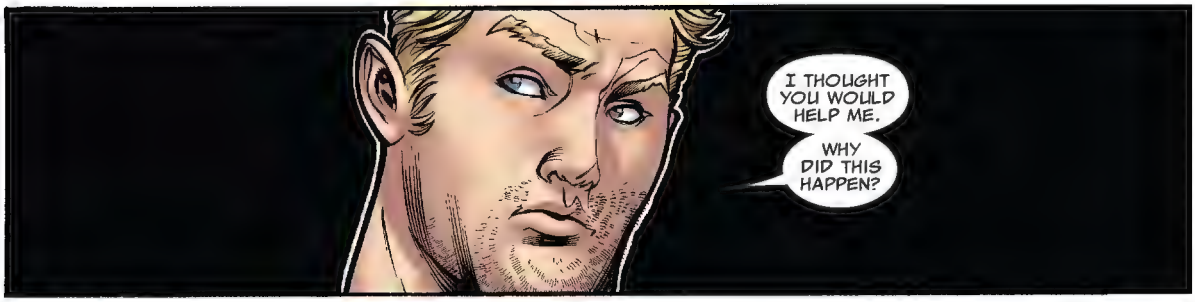
YIELD.
NEVER!
I WILL KILL YOU!!
I WILL SNAP YOUR BONES WITH MY BARE HANDS AND--
IF YOU WANT TO STOP A GOD, YOU CUT A DEAL WITH A GOD.
I BORROWED POWER FROM MISTRESS HELA HERSELF TO MAKE SURE YOU STAY THE HELL DOWN.

WELL I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU BUT I'M HAVING AN AMAZING TIME--
RRAAAAAOOOOORRRR--!!
STUPID METAL SON OF A--
THAT'S FOR OUR McCOY--

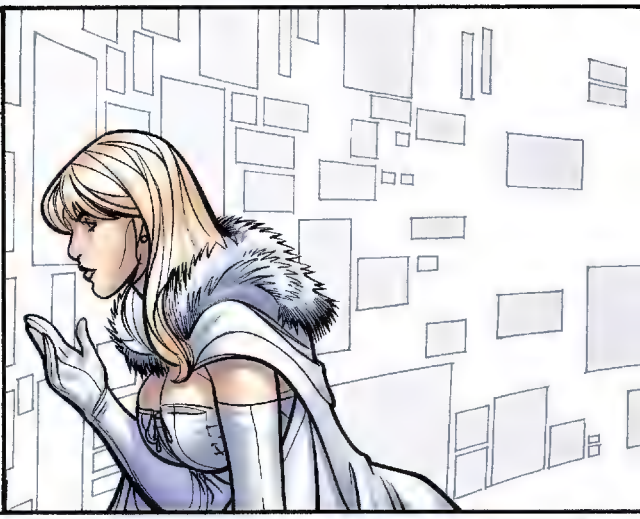
ANYTHING YOU CAN DO I CAN DO BETTER...
I CAN DO ANYTHING BETTER THAN YOU.
NO.
YOU.
CAN'T.
YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO COPY SOME OF US, MIMIC--
--BUT YOU CAN'T STOP ALL OF US.
I SWEAR, WOMEN WHO THINK THEY CAN FIGHT NEVER CEASE TO AMUSE ME--
YOU ALL RIGHT?


HEY, JERK.
GIRL POWER.
CHARLES!
EMMA... EMMA, DEAR GIRL.
I'M SO SORRY WE COULDN'T--
THAT YOU WERE TORTURED FOR SO LONG AND I--
EMMA.
YOU DID YOUR BEST, WHICH IS NEVER LESS THAN BRILLIANT.
ALL WE CAN DO NOW IS MAKE THEM PAY AND STOP THEM FROM EVER DOING IT AGAIN.
I NEED YOUR HELP, CHARLES. IT'S THE LAST PART OF SCOTT'S PLAN AND IT'S BIG.
SENTRY IS BIG. GODLIKE IN HIS POWERS. AND THE LAST TIME THE SENTRY WENT OFF HIS MEDS I BUILT A WHITE ROOM IN HIS HEAD.
HELP ME GET BACK TO THE WHITE ROOM, CHARLES.
FROM THERE I CAN LOBOTOMIZE GOD...

AHH--
BOB?
I'M NOT GOING TO MAKE IT.

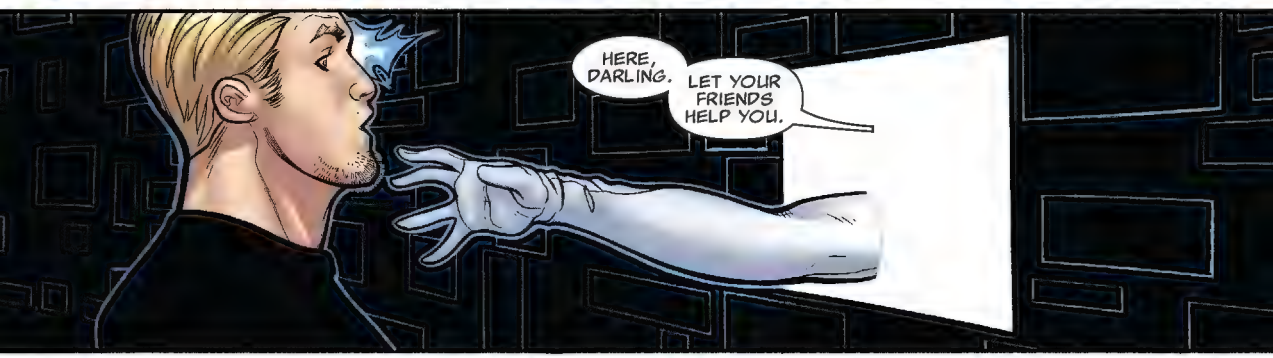

I THOUGHT YOU WOULD HELP ME.
WHY DID THIS HAPPEN?

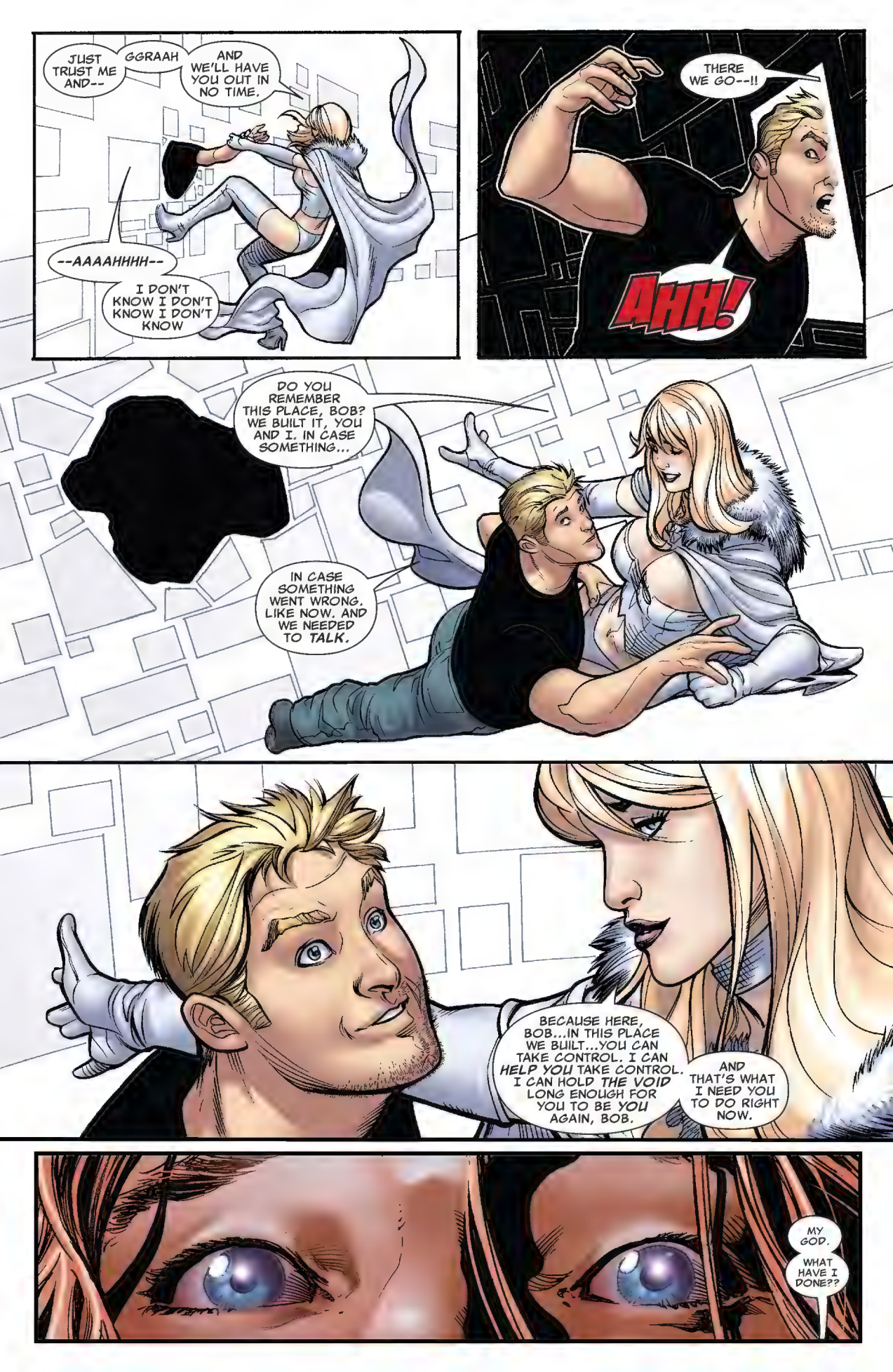
BOB. DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOU ARE? DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?
OF COURSE.
YOU'RE EMMA FROST.
I DIDN'T THINK YOU REMEMBERED ME.



WE ALL REMEMBER YOU, BOB.
BOB, I--WE--
WE NEED YOU TO COME BACK TO US. JUST FOR A SECOND. DO YOU THINK YOU CAN DO THAT?

OH, MAN, I DON'T KNOW, I DON'T KNOW--
IT'S BEEN SO LONG AND-- AND I--
IT'S BEEN SO LONG I DON'T KNOW HOW.


HERE, DARLING.
LET YOUR FRIENDS HELP YOU.


JUST TRUST ME AND--
GGRAAH
AND WE'LL HAVE YOU OUT IN NO TIME.
--AAAAHHHH--
I DON'T KNOW I DON'T KNOW I DON'T KNOW
THERE WE GO--!!
AHH!
DO YOU REMEMBER THIS PLACE, BOB? WE BUILT IT, YOU AND I. IN CASE SOMETHING...
IN CASE SOMETHING WENT WRONG. LIKE NOW. AND WE NEEDED TO TALK.
BECAUSE HERE, BOB...IN THIS PLACE WE BUILT...YOU CAN TAKE CONTROL. I CAN HELP YOU TAKE CONTROL. I CAN HOLD THE VOID LONG ENOUGH FOR YOU TO BE YOU AGAIN, BOB.
AND THAT'S WHAT I NEED YOU TO DO RIGHT NOW.
MY GOD.
WHAT HAVE I DONE??

NNN
CHARLES.
GOOD LORD, CHILD--
CAN'T HOLD IT.

SCOTT--
EMMA?
EMMA?!?
...I...
...WHERE...
...HOW...
EMMA! STAY IN YOUR DIAMOND STATE--NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO YOU MUST REMAIN FIXED IN DIAMOND...
THERE'S...A SLIVER OF THE VOID STILL INSIDE OF YOU...!
?!?
HEH.
GUESS WHO'S OFF THE BOARD, GENIUS?
STOP SMILING, DAMN YOU!
STOP LAUGHING! THIS ISN'T A GAME!
WE STILL HAVE ARES.
DO YOU?
"BECAUSE THAT'S NOT A BET I'D CARE TO MAKE..."
WOMAN!
THOU ART SURELY SPIRITED.

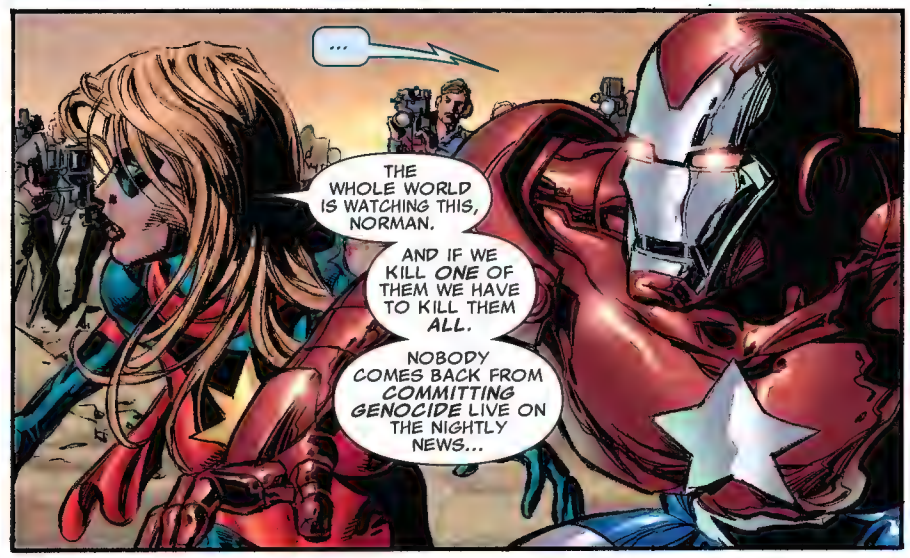
GUGGKKK
YUH.
YOU. YOUR POWER...
...I DIDN'T PLAN ON FIGHTING A VALKYRIE.
HURKK!
I'M NOT--
--HEFF--
--JUST A VALKYRIE--
I WAS MADE TO STOP GODS. SO, ARES--
STOP.
NO.
NO NO NO NO!

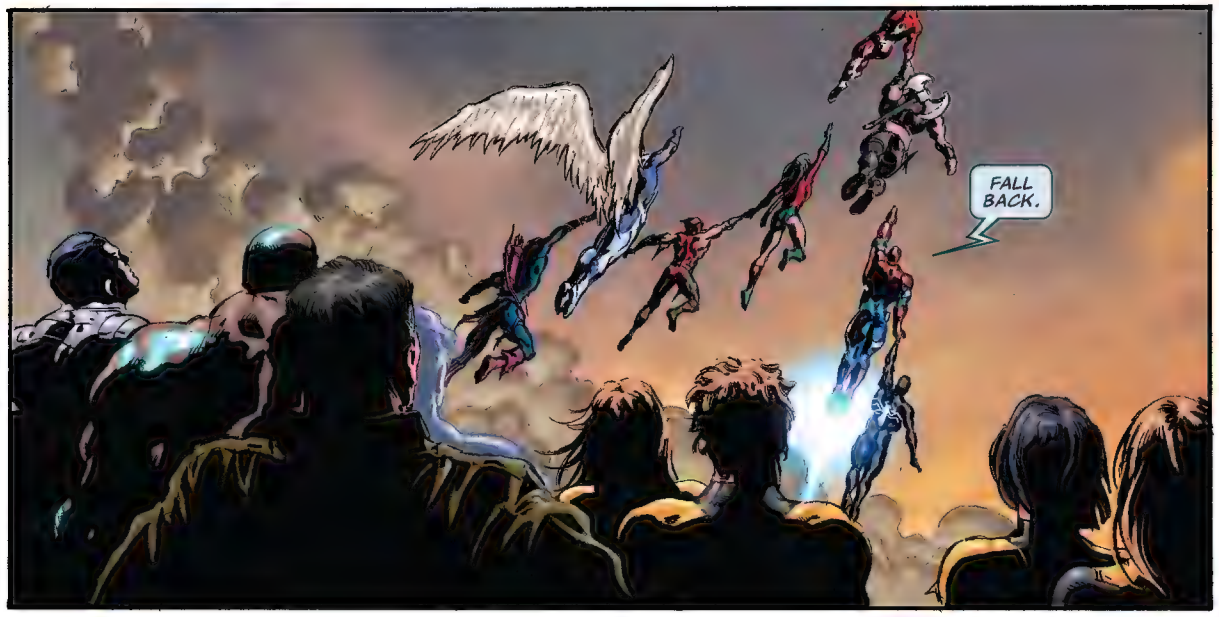
FALL! FALL!
THAT THE BEST YOU CAN DO?
GONNA NEED TO BRING A WHOLE LOT MORE.
SNIKT!
RRRRRRAAHHHHHHH
GGGGRRRRRRRAAAA
NO ESCAPE NOW, BOB.
NOT EVER.
TOO
TOO MANY OF THEM

DAMN YOU, SUMMERS--
I DON'T LOSE--WE DON'T LOSE!
AND YOU-- YOU, YOU, UPPITY LITTLE--
NORMAN--
NORMAN!
KARLA! WHAT DO YOU WANT?
NORMAN, WE--
WE HAVE TO--
THERE ARE TOO MANY OF THEM, NORMAN.
WE HAVE TO KILL THEM ALL IF WE'RE GOING TO WIN.
SO KILL THE BASTARDS, I DON'T CARE.
LOOK.

MR. OSBORN.
WE'RE ALL X-MEN NOW.

I GAVE YOU A CHANCE, OSBORN.
I TOLD YOU TO SURRENDER.

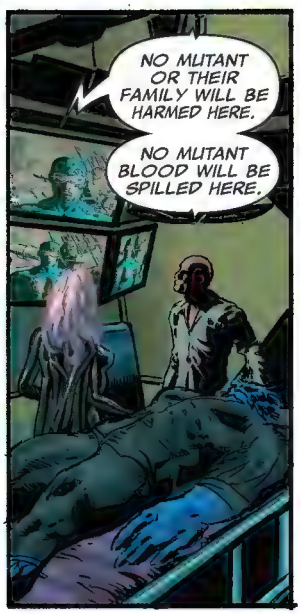

...
THE WHOLE WORLD IS WATCHING THIS, NORMAN.
AND IF WE KILL ONE OF THEM WE HAVE TO KILL THEM ALL.
NOBODY COMES BACK FROM COMMITTING GENOCIDE LIVE ON THE NIGHTLY NEWS...


FALL BACK.

THAT LOOKS LIKE CHECK AND MATE, BOSS.
ALMOST. ONE MORE WEAPON TO FIRE.
ONE MORE BOMB TO DROP...

AHH--HELLO AGAIN. MY NAME IS SCOTT SUMMERS AND I'VE BEEN AN X-MAN SINCE I WAS FIFTEEN.
AND LIKE EVERYONE ELSE HERE, I'VE BEEN A MUTANT ALL MY LIFE.

THIS GROUND--THIS CITY WE LIVE IN, JUST OFF YOUR SHORES--THIS FORTRESS WE OCCUPY--
THIS GROUND IS SACRED.


NO MUTANT OR THEIR FAMILY WILL BE HARMED HERE.
NO MUTANT BLOOD WILL BE SPILLED HERE.

OUR CHILDREN SHALL NOT BE HUNTED OR HARMED.
THEY SHALL NOT BE PREJUDICED AGAINST, LEGISLATED AGAINST, OR EVER GO TO SLEEP FOR A SINGLE UNSAFE MOMENT.

WE MAY HAVE PAID THE ULTIMATE PRICE FOR OUR SAFETY TONIGHT.
BUT I AM HERE TO PROMISE YOU, UNEQUIVOCALLY, WE MEAN YOU NO HARM. IN SPITE OF THE DECADES OF HARM INFLICTED UPON US PERSONALLY, PRIVATELY, OR AS A MATTER OF LAW.

WE HAVE BEEN, AND ALWAYS SHALL BE, SWORN TO PROTECT A WORLD THAT HATES AND DESPISES US.
ONLY NOW...

WE SHALL ALL BE FREE.

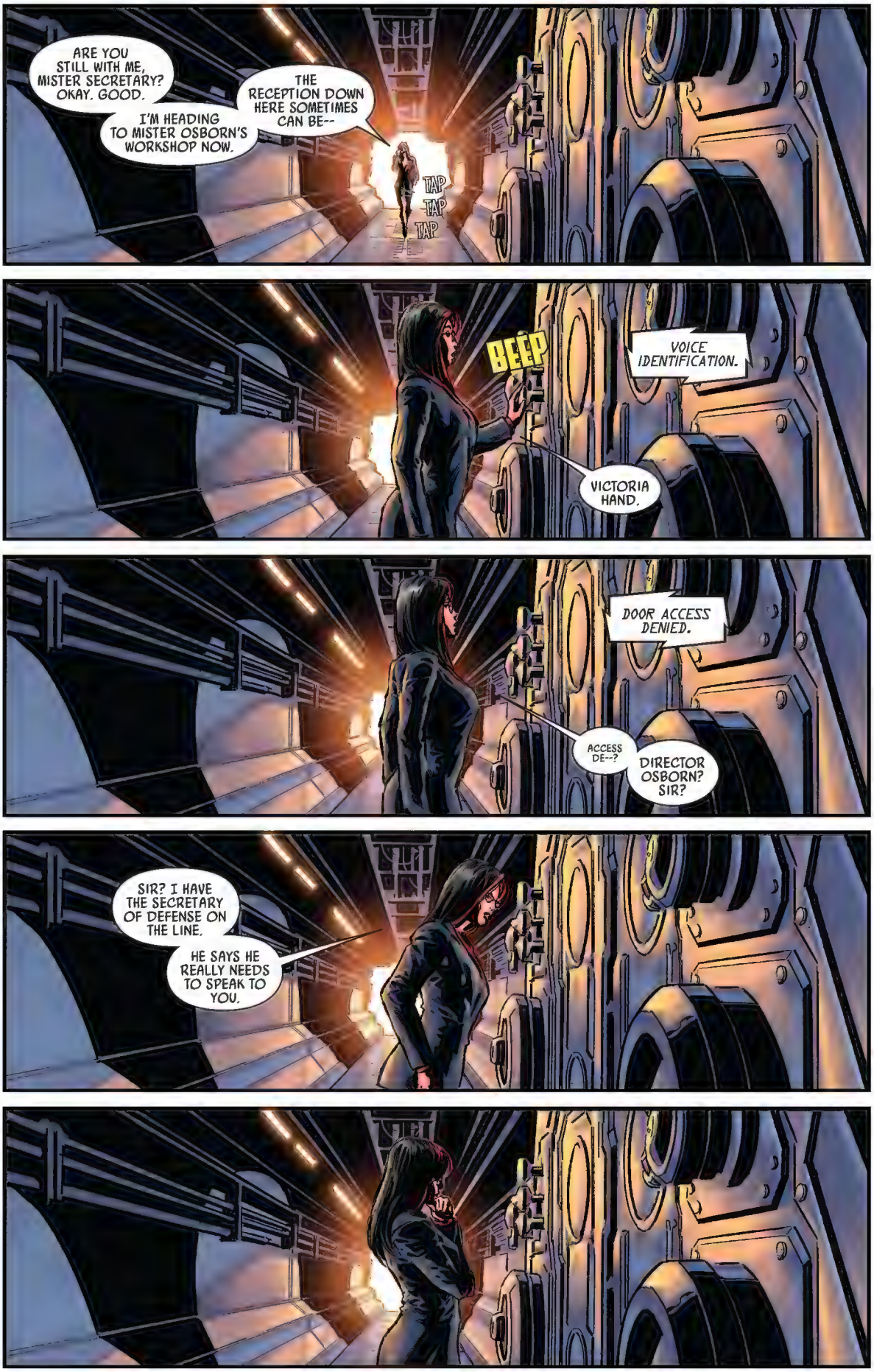
MY FELLOW AMERICANS, I STAND BEFORE YOU TO DECLARE THAT WE ARE FREE, AT LONG LAST, OF THE MILITANT MUTANT MENACE THAT HAS THREATENED OUR SAFETY AND WELL-BEING FOR SO LONG.
MY X-MEN-- ASSISTED BY MY AVENGERS, HAVE WON.
ALL CURFEWS AND MARTIAL LAW ORDERS ARE HEREBY RESCINDED.
THE AVENGERS, WHO HAVE SO TIRELESSLY AND FLAWLESSLY RESTORED LAW AND ORDER TO THE EAST COAST IN THE WAKE OF COUNTLESS CALAMITIES AND CATASTROPHES...
ASSISTED THE X-MEN FEARLESSLY WHO, IN SPITE OF DEFECTIONS, BETRAYALS, AND A RELATIVE NEWNESS TO BATTLE ON THIS SCALE, MANAGED TO FIGHT THE MUTANT MENACE COURAGEOUSLY.
I AM PROUD TO STAND WITH THEM TODAY.
THE MUTANT MENACE, AS LED BY THE MILITANT HATE-MONGER SCOTT SUMMERS, HAS EVACUATED AMERICAN SOIL ONCE AND FOR ALL.
WHAT THEY CALL UTOPIA, I CALL A PRISON. LET THEM STAY THERE. BECAUSE AS LONG AS THEY DO...
WE HAVE WON.
OZZIE...JUST BETWEEN US GIRLS...
YOU ACTUALLY BELIEVE THE CRAP YOU'RE SHOVELING?
BELIEVE IT?
HAWKEYE, I NOT ONLY BELIEVE IT BUT I'M LIVING IT.
THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING. WHAT'S COMING NEXT IS GOING TO CHANGE THE WORLD.

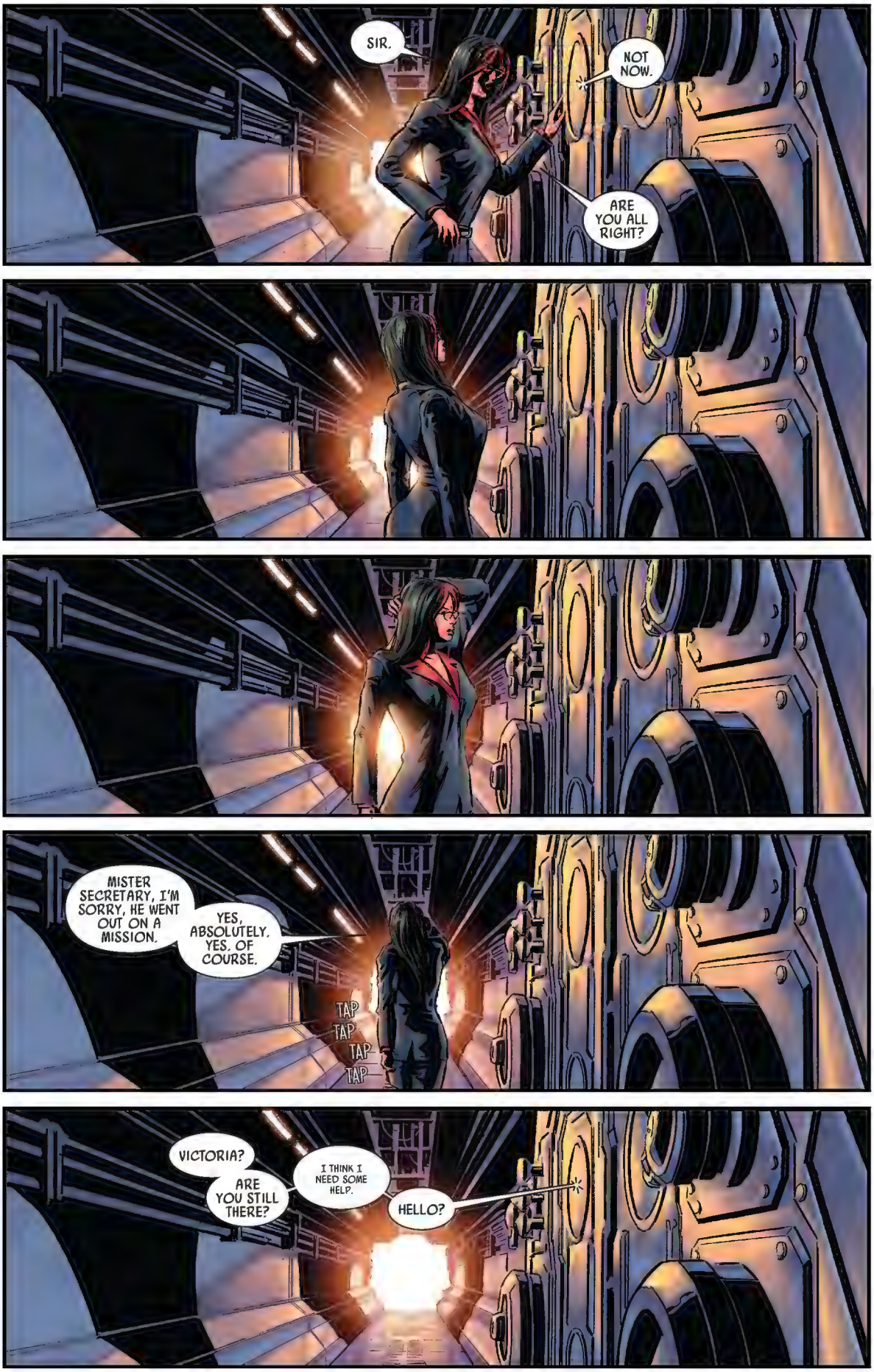
X UTOPIA
"SUMMERS."
SUMMERS!
SORRY. MILLION MILES AWAY.
WELL, SNAP OUT OF IT, MAN. WE HAVE A CITY TO BUILD.
THE TELEPORTERS ARE BRINGING IN STRAGGLERS AND FAMILIES. PEOPLE ARE COMING SEEKING AMNESTY. DOZENS AT A TIME.
THE MEDIC BAY IS FULL UP. THE HEALERS ARE WORKING ON GETTING FOLKS UP AND ON THEIR FEET, BUT THERE'S JUST SO MANY OF THEM.
YEAH.

BEEN UP THREE MINUTES, GUYS. SOMEBODY GET ME A CUP OF COFFEE AND WE'LL START DEALING WITH THE PROBLEMS ONE AT A TIME.
DISMISSED.
...
YOU HEARD HIM.
WELL.
YOU DID IT.
WE DID IT, EMMA. YOU, ME--ALL OF US.
WE HAVE A HOMELAND NOW. AGAIN. I CAN'T BE THE FIRST TO REMIND YOU THAT THE LAST TIME WE LIVED ON AN ISLAND IT DIDN'T WORK OUT SO WELL.
THIS TIME WILL BE DIFFERENT.
HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE?
THE SAME WAY WE BEAT OSBORN. I HAVE FAITH.
AND I KNOW I'M NOT ALONE.

DARK AVENGERS #9 COVER SKETCHES BY
MIKE DEODATO JR.

DARK AVENGERS #9


ARE YOU STILL WITH ME, MISTER SECRETARY? OKAY. GOOD.
I'M HEADING TO MISTER OSBORN'S WORKSHOP NOW.
THE RECEPTION DOWN HERE SOMETIMES CAN BE--
TAP TAP TAP
BEEP
VOICE IDENTIFICATION.
VICTORIA HAND.
DOOR ACCESS DENIED.
ACCESS DE--?
DIRECTOR OSBORN? SIR?
SIR? I HAVE THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE ON THE LINE.
HE SAYS HE REALLY NEEDS TO SPEAK TO YOU.


SIR.
NOT NOW.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
MISTER SECRETARY, I'M SORRY, HE WENT OUT ON A MISSION.
YES, ABSOLUTELY. YES, OF COURSE.
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
VICTORIA?
ARE YOU STILL THERE?
I THINK I NEED SOME HELP.
HELLO?

THE BRONX.
ALEXANDER!
BOY!
TIME FOR SCHOOL.

WE ARE STILL SIFTING THROUGH THE STARTLING EVENTS OF THE LAST COUPLE OF DAYS, BUT HERE'S WHAT WE DO KNOW...
...NORMAN OSBORN AND HIS TEAM OF AVENGERS HAVE DRAWN A HARD LINE IN THE SAND IN REGARDS TO MUTANT RIGHTS--
NO PUBLIC OFFICIAL HAS PUT HIS OR HER FOOT DOWN ON THE MUTANT DILEMMA AS STRONGLY AS OSBORN...
...AND WE WILL SEE WHAT THE LONG-TERM FALLOUT IS.
WHAT?
I--I SAW YOU. YOU WERE THERE, ON TV.
AYE. THE AVENGERS WERE CALLED.
WE BESTED THEM IN BATTLE.
ASK YOUR QUESTION, BOY.
WAS--WAS IT THE RIGHT THING TO DO?
THIS THING WITH THE MUTANTS?
YES.
HOW DO YOU KNOW?

BECAUSE I'M OLDER AND WISER THAN YOU, LITTLE BOY.
ON TV IT SAYS...
WHAT?
NEVER MIND.
RICO
SPEAK AS A MAN.
ON THE TV IT SAYS WHAT?

THIS NORMAN OSBORN.
HE--SOME PEOPLE THINK HE'S SOME KIND OF MONSTER.

HA!
YOU SHOULD MEET YOUR GRANDFATHER.
ARE YOU SURE HE'S THE RIGHT PERSON TO BE--TO BE WORKING WITH?
YES!
BUT HOW DO YOU KNOW?

CRASH

I TOLD YOU!!

YOU'RE LATE FOR SCHOOLING.

SLAM

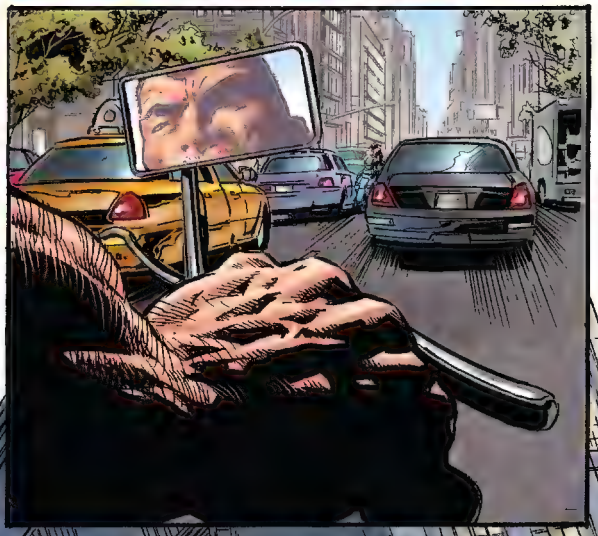
...THE LATEST GALLUP POLL SAYS THAT AN OVERWHELMING SEVENTY-SIX PERCENT OF AMERICANS ARE VERY HAPPY WITH OSBORN'S TREATMENT OF THE MUTANTS...
SNIFF

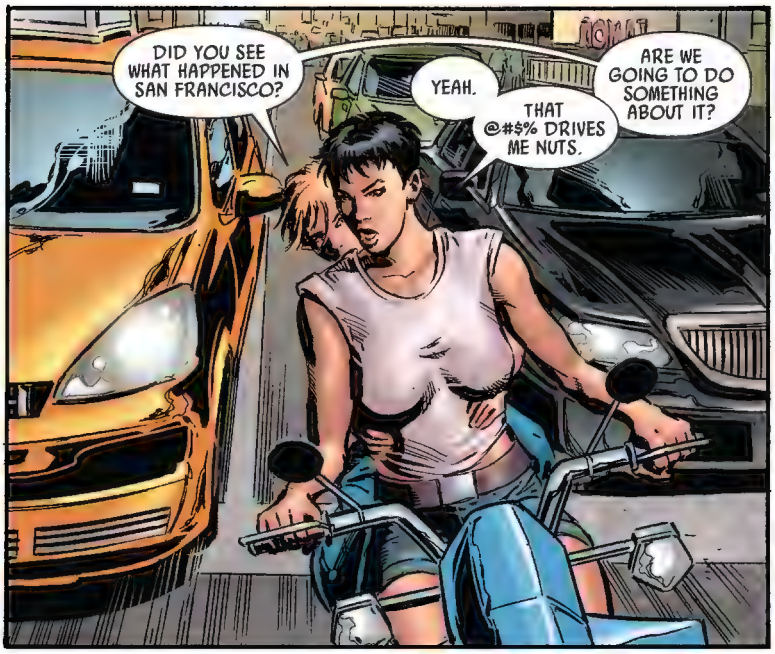
BEEP BEEP
...AND SIXTY-SIX PERCENT FEEL THEMSELVES TO BE IN CONSTANT PHYSICAL DANGER FROM THEIR EXISTENCE...

HEY, KIDDO.
HEY, DAISY.

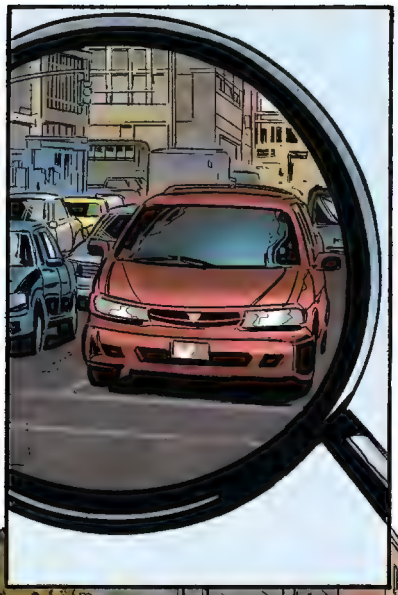
YOU OKAY?
TIRED.
SHALL WE DANCE?
WHERE WE GOIN'?
NEW CLUBHOUSE. HOLD TIGHT.
ANOTHER NEW ONE?

IT'S THE GAME WE'RE PLAYIN'.




DID YOU SEE WHAT HAPPENED IN SAN FRANCISCO?
YEAH.
THAT @#$% DRIVES ME NUTS.
ARE WE GOING TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT?

DUNNO.
WE'LL SEE.



FURY SAFEHOUSE 7, SOHO.
HOME OF THE SECRET WARRIORS.
YOU HAVE GOT TO BE @#$ KIDDING ME, FURY.
REMEMBER THE PART WHERE I TOLD YOU: YOU DO WHAT I SAY?
TODAY I SAY YOU READ.
YOU READ THESE INTEL REPORTS ON THE HISTORY OF ADVANCED IDEA MECHANICS.
YOU READ ABOUT THEIR ON-AGAIN OFF-AGAIN RELATIONSHIP WITH THE ONCE-GREAT HYDRA.
BUT--
AND YOU DO THIS BECAUSE THERE IS INFORMATION IN HERE THAT WILL SAVE YOUR LIFE IN THE FIELD.
YOU CAN ALWAYS GO BACK TO SCHOOL AND LEARN HOW TO TAKE YOUR--
PING
INTRUDER.
I'M GETTING A HEADACHE JUST LISTENING TO YOU DESCRIBE THIS.
IT'S NOT BORING. IT'S FASCINATING, ACTUALLY.
YOU'RE TURNING INTO A SPY NERD, DAISY.
SO WHY DON'T YOU READ IT AND TELL US THE HIGHLIGHTS.
7L-2

SON OF A BITCH.
WHO IS THAT?
THE KID'S FATHER.
OH @#$%. AND BY KID'S FATHER YOU MEAN...
OH NO.
WHAT IS THAT? IS THAT AN *AXE?*
IT'S NOT JUST AN AXE. IT WAS GIVEN TO HIM BY ZEUS.
NO @#$%.
HOLD ON TO YOUR BUTTS.
ARES. THE @#$% GOD OF WAR?
HE MUST HAVE FOLLOWED US.
YA THINK?
HOW COULD YOU MISS *THAT* GUY!!?? THAT *ENTIRE* GUY??
I--I DIDN'T SEE HIM.
OH MAN...

WELL, HOLY HELL!
HELLFIRE, DON'T--!
SHOWACK
SMACK
YEAH... THAT MEANS STAND DOWN.

AIM

YOU'RE NICK FURY.
YEAH. WE MET ONCE.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING DOWN HERE? WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH MY SON?
TRAINING.
FOR WHAT?
TO FIGHT BACK.

THIS IS WHAT YOU DO ALL DAY? THIS IS WHAT YOU DO WHEN I'M OUT?

THE--THE WORLD'S KIND OF A MESS.

KIDS.
GO IN THE OTHER ROOM. GROWN-UP TALK.
ALL OF YOU.
WHY MY SON? WHY HIM?
HE'S AN AMAZING KID. WITH AMAZING POWERS.
IN THE SHORT TIME I'VE KNOWN HIM, YOU SHOULD SEE WHAT HE'S ACCOMPLISHED.
BUT HE NEEDS TRAINING. SO I CAME TO HIM.
THE POTENTIAL FOR HIM...IT'S--I DON'T EVEN HAVE THE WORDS TO DESCRIBE IT.
I--
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO RAISE HIM.
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO TALK TO HIM.
I DON'T KNOW--WHAT TO TALK ABOUT.
MY FATHER, AND HIS FATHER BEFORE HIM--THAT IS WHAT I KNOW.
I WANT HIM--I WANT HIM TO SEE THIS WORLD DIFFERENTLY THAN I HAVE BEEN TAUGHT TO SEE IT.
MY FATHER--I HAD TO FLEE HIS COURT TO FIND MY WAY.
I DON'T WANT THE BOY TO RUN FROM ME SO HE CAN FIND HIS.
BUT I CAN SEE--IF I TAKE HIM FROM YOU NOW--I KNOW HE WILL.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.

WELL...
I'VE LONG SINCE LEARNED NOT TO TELL IMMORTALS WHAT TO DO...SO I DON'T HAVE AN ANSWER FOR YOU.

IS THIS YOUR PATH?

YES, SIR.

SO BE IT, THEN.

KNOW THIS. IF THE BOY DIES IN BATTLE WITH YOU...
HE'LL DIE A WARRIOR.
YOU MAY SEE IT THAT WAY. AND MAYBE I WOULD TOO...
THAT WON'T STOP HIS GRANDFATHER FROM STRIKING YOU DOWN AND MAKING IT HIS PLEASURE TO WATCH YOU BURN IN THE ETERNAL FIRE OF HADES.

WELL, AS LONG AS WE'RE ALL BEING HONEST HERE...I'D BE REMISS IF I DIDN'T SAY...
THIS THING WITH YOU AND NORMAN OSBORN?
BUDDY, YOU BET ON THE WRONG HORSE THERE.

I KNOW HE HAS YOUR OLD JOB...
I'M SURE THAT IS HUMILIATING TO YOU. BUT HE IS DOING VERY WELL AT IT.

YEAH, WELL...
SHOW AIN'T OVER.

WOW!
THAT IS YOUR DAD?
YOU CAN STAY, ALEX!! THIS IS SO COOL. NO MORE SNEAKING AROUND.

PACK IT UP! THIS PLACE IS BURNT.
MY--NO. MY DAD WOULD NEVER TELL OSBORN WHERE WE ARE.
THAT COULD BE TRUE. BUT THIS IS THE BIG WORLD OF INTERNATIONAL INTELLIGENCE. OSBORN HAS PSYCHICS.
HOW DO YOU KNOW?
BECAUSE I DID. AND WHAT YOUR DAD DON'T HAVE IN HIS HEAD HE CAN'T ACCIDENTALLY GIVE AWAY.
GOT IT.

PACK YOUR @#$%, KID.

MMMHAPPENED?
YOU JUST BATTLED THE GOD OF WAR AND LIVED TO TALK ABOUT IT, HELLFIRE. SO YOU HAD A GOOD DAY.

AND YOU: EYES IN THE BACK OF YOUR HEAD. ALWAYS.
YES SIR.
ALWAYS.
YES SIR.
BECAUSE THAT COULD HAVE EASILY GONE IN AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT DIRECTION.
YES SIR.

AVENGERS TOWER.
SO THEN I CUT OFF HIS HAND!
WHOSE HAND?
THAT DEADPOOL @#$%.
BULL.
I DID.
WITH WHAT?
WITH THESE.
WELL, SURE. THAT'LL DO IT.
I DON'T BELIEVE YOU, DAKEN.
I DON'T CARE.
YOU CUT OFF HIS HANDS?
GOOD. THAT GUY IS ANNOYING.
HE THINKS HE'S HILARIOUS.
LIKE SPIDER-MAN. "OH HO! I'M SO FUNNY!"
SPIDER-MAN'S KIND OF FUNNY.
UH, NOT REALLY.
IF YOU'RE IN THE MOOD FOR IT.
WELL, THEN, I'M NEVER IN THE MOOD FOR IT.
EVERY TIME I HEAR A GUY PRATTLE ON LIKE THAT WITH THOSE STUPID JOKES, ALL I CAN THINK OF IS THAT HE MUST HAVE A REALLY SMALL--
CAPTAIN CRAZY IS BACK.
OH, I THOUGHT YOU MEANT OSBORN.
VICKY, DARLING, WHAT'S THE OVER UNDER ON WHEN THE SENTRY'S GOING TO FINALLY CRACK AND KILL US ALL WITHOUT REALIZING HE'S DONE IT?
THE SENTRY IS FINE. EVERYTHING IS FINE.
EVERYTHING IS FINE.

LINDY?
GOOD MORNING, MASTER ROBERT. WOULD YOU LIKE A HAMBURGER?
WHERE'S LINDY, CLOC?
BEHIND YOU.
LINDY? WHERE'D YOU GET THAT?
THE ALIEN WHO WAS LIVING DOWNSTAIRS.
IT'S A GUN FROM ANOTHER PLANET.
AND YOU WANT TO SHOOT ME WITH IT?
YOU'RE INSANE, BOB. YOU'RE OUT OF YOUR MIND.
YOU WON'T LET ME GO. AND I CAN'T STOP YOU.
NOTHING ON EARTH CAN STOP YOU.
LINDY, I THOUGHT WE TALKED ABOUT ALL--
SHAPOW

YOU GUYS HEAR THAT?
HEAR WHAT?
PROBABLY NOTHING.

BEEP

DARK AVENGERS #9 PAGES 9-10 LAYOUT SKETCH & INKS BY
MIKE DEODATO JR.

DARK AVENGERS #10

I THINK I SHOULD CALL HIM AND TELL HIM I LEFT TOWN.
NO, I SHOULD.
ABSOLUTELY NOT.
HE CHEATED ON YOU.
BUT--
WHERE THE HELL ARE WE?
OH, UH, DINOSAUR, COLORADO, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.
I DON'T EVEN CARE. I HAVE TO PEE.
AND PEE YOU SHALL.
Welcome to Dinosaur, Colorado
Gateway to Dinosaur National Monument
511 Travel Info
Dial 511
DINO BURGER
HUH.
LITTLE WEIRD.
LET'S JUST GAS UP AND GO.
DINGLE DING
UM...
HI.
IS THERE A BATHROOM?

IN THE BACK.
CUSTOMERS ONLY.

WE'RE ORDERING.
DON'T CALL HIM!
SHUT UP.
YOU GOT COFFEE? WE'LL TAKE TWO. BLACK.

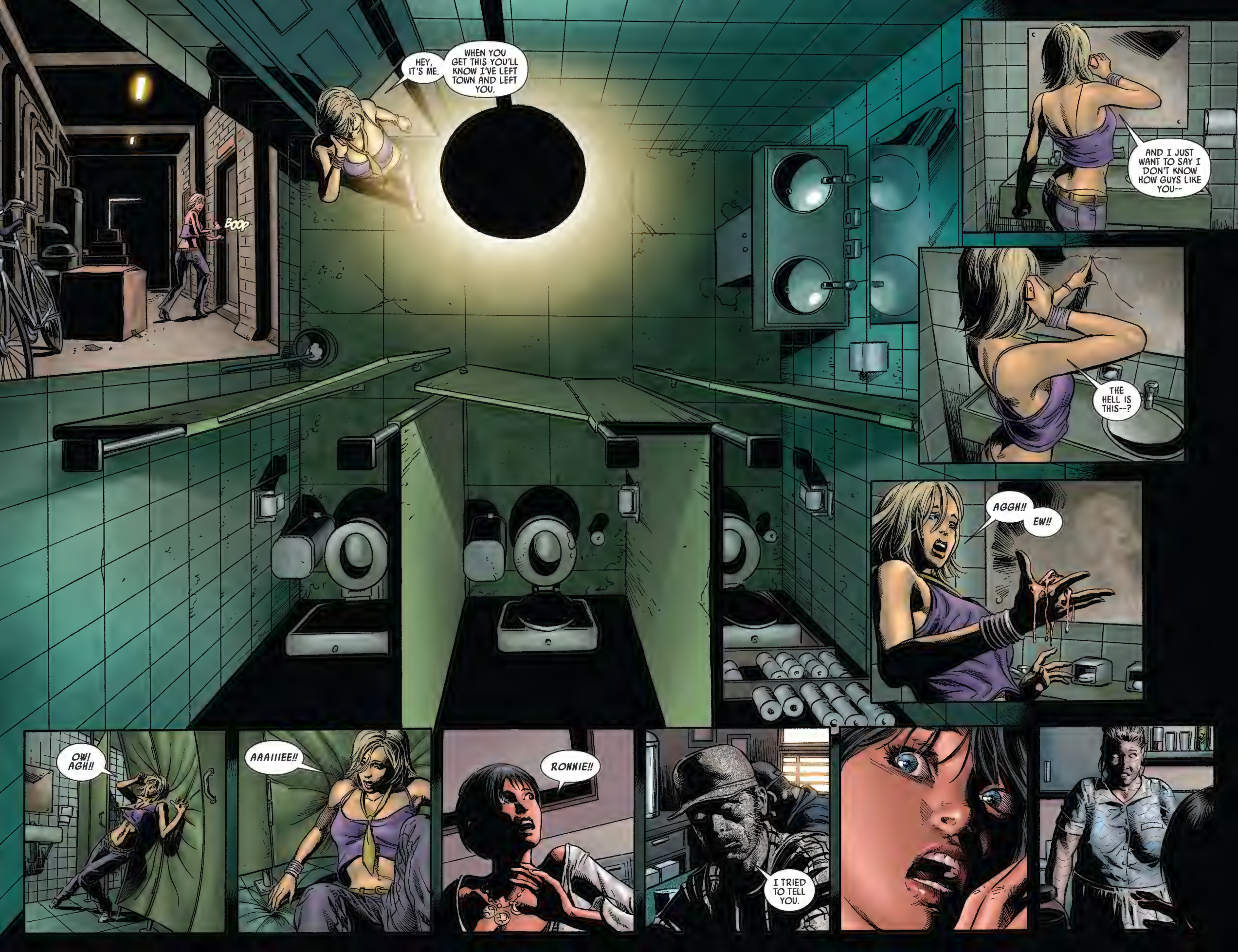
HOW MUCH?
GET OUT OF HERE.
DUDE.

WHAT DID YOU SAY?

WERE--WERE YOU TALKING TO ME?

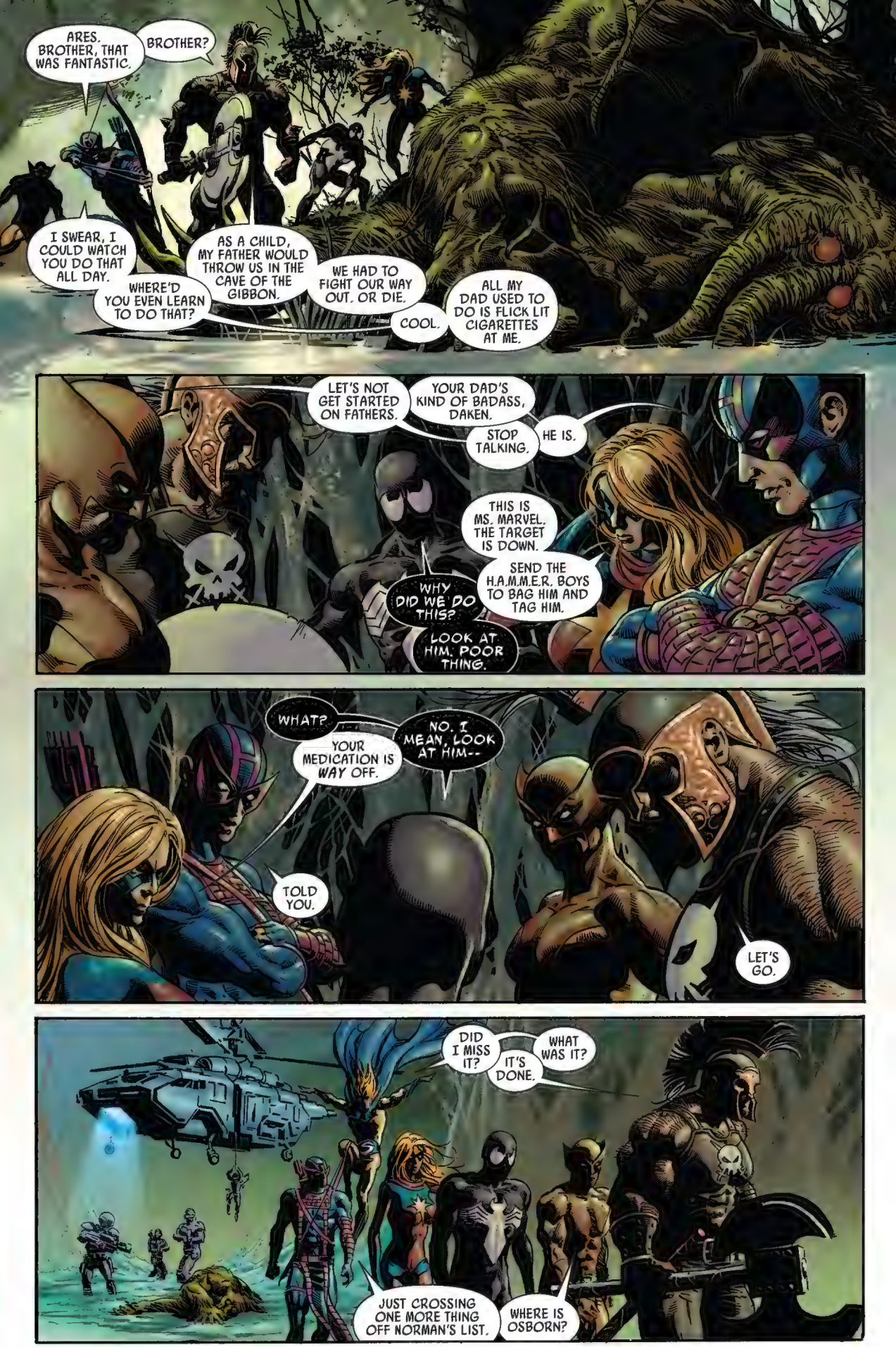
TWO COFFEES.
TWO DOLLARS.

IS EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT?


HEY, IT'S ME.
WHEN YOU GET THIS YOU'LL KNOW I'VE LEFT TOWN AND LEFT YOU.
BOOP
AND I JUST WANT TO SAY I DON'T KNOW HOW GUYS LIKE YOU--
THE HELL IS THIS--?
AGGH!! EW!!
OW! AGH!!
AAAIIIEE!!
RONNIE!!
I TRIED TO TELL YOU.

DINO BURGER
AAAA!!
DINO

LOUISIANA BAYOU.
HHAA!!


ARES. BROTHER, THAT WAS FANTASTIC.
BROTHER?
I SWEAR, I COULD WATCH YOU DO THAT ALL DAY.
WHERE'D YOU EVEN LEARN TO DO THAT?
AS A CHILD, MY FATHER WOULD THROW US IN THE CAVE OF THE GIBBON.
WE HAD TO FIGHT OUR WAY OUT. OR DIE.
COOL.
ALL MY DAD USED TO DO IS FLICK LIT CIGARETTES AT ME.
LET'S NOT GET STARTED ON FATHERS.
YOUR DAD'S KIND OF BADASS, DAKEN.
STOP TALKING.
HE IS.
THIS IS MS. MARVEL. THE TARGET IS DOWN.
SEND THE H.A.M.M.E.R. BOYS TO BAG HIM AND TAG HIM.
WHY DID WE DO THIS?
LOOK AT HIM. POOR THING.
WHAT?
NO. I MEAN, LOOK AT HIM--
YOUR MEDICATION IS WAY OFF.
TOLD YOU.
LET'S GO.
DID I MISS IT?
WHAT WAS IT?
IT'S DONE.
JUST CROSSING ONE MORE THING OFF NORMAN'S LIST.
WHERE IS OSBORN?

AVENGERS TOWER, NEXT MORNING.

OKAY, AVENGERS, WE HAVE A SITUATION.

NO.

NO?

NO, AS IN: THIS IS BULL.

YOU'VE GOT US RUNNING FULL STEAM. ALL DAY. EVERY DAY.

IT IS A BIT MUCH.

WHEN WE WERE IN THUNDERBOLTS MOUNTAIN WE DIDN'T HAVE TO WORK HALF AS HARD.

WELL, IF YOU'D LIKE TO GO *BACK* THERE...

DON'T *THREATEN* ME, GOTH GIRL.

YOU KNOW WHAT I'M SAYING. YOU KNOW *EXACTLY* WHAT I'M SAYING. YOU'RE BURNING US OUT.

WE DESERVE A BREAK. WHATEVER NONSENSE YOU'RE COOKING CAN WAIT A DAY.

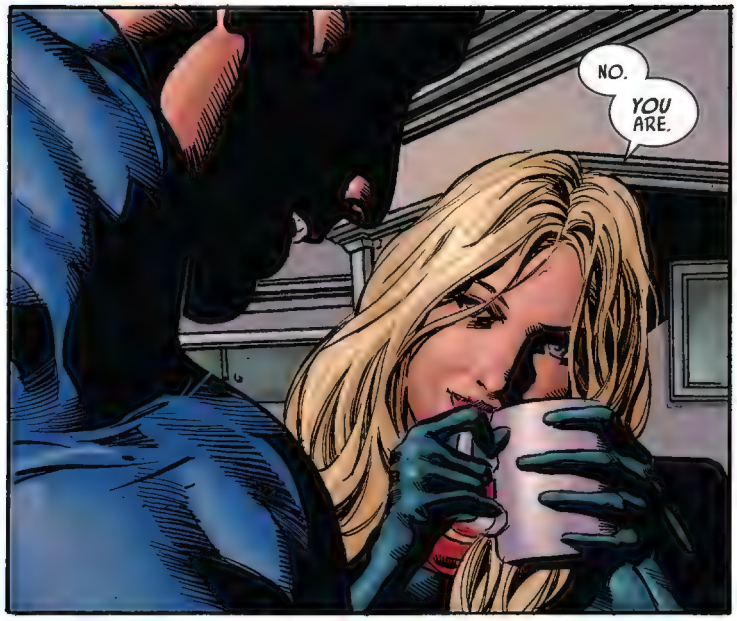
THE EARTH WILL CONTINUE TO TURN.

I'M WITH HIM.

WHERE *IS* OSBORN?

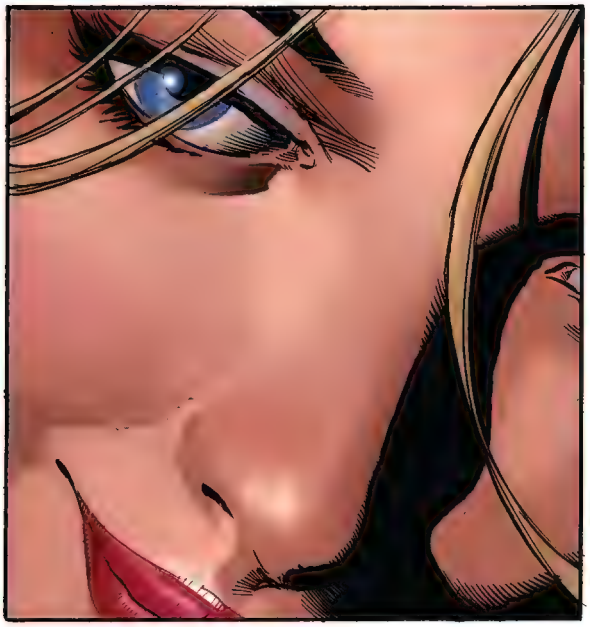
WHY?

IS *HE* NEXT ON *YOUR* TO-DO LIST?


NO.
YOU ARE.

YOU COULDN'T EVEN COME CLOSE TO HANDLING IT.

TRY ME.



UM, I'M VERY UNCOMFORTABLE.

AND ANOTHER THING.
THIS. THIS ISN'T WORKING.
WHATEVER MEDS YOU'RE ON ARE TURNING YOU INTO A GIRL.
SEE?
STOP MAKING FUN OF ME!!

I, UH, I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN...
I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO.

WHERE IS OSBORN?
WE SHOULD BE HAVING THIS MEETING WITH OSBORN.

HE'S GOT A LOT ON HIS PLATE.
NOT JUST YOU GUYS.

YOU DON'T KNOW.
LEAVE IT BE.
NO. I CAN SMELL A LIE. ESPECIALLY ON A WOMAN.
THEY REEK WHEN THEY LIE. AND SHE'S LYING.

LISTEN TO ME, YOU STUCK UP LITTLE--!!
VICTORIA, DO NOT LET HIM GET TO YOU...

BECAUSE THAT IS WHAT HE WAS TRYING TO DO.
FOR SPORT.
SETTLE DOWN, DAKEN.
I NEED TO SPEAK TO YOU, MISTER OSBORN.
YOU ARE SPEAKING TO ME.
WHAT'S ON THE AGENDA FOR TODAY?
SIR...
EVERYTHING IS FINE, VICTORIA.
SIR...
THE AGENDA. THE LIST. WHAT'S NEXT?
UM... WELL, TWO GIRLS WENT MISSING IN COLORADO.
HOW IS THAT ON OUR AGENDA?
ONE OF THE GIRLS IS THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S DAUGHTER.
SHE'S BEEN GONE FOR TWO DAYS.
YOU DID TELL HIM TO CONTACT THE FBI AND THAT THIS IS NOT IN ANY WAY OUR DEPARTMENT?
HE'S ASKING FOR A PERSONAL FAVOR.
WONDERFUL.
SO WHAT?
SCREW 'IM.
HE CONTROLS THE COMMITTEE THAT CONTROLS OUR FINANCING.
OH, NORMAN...SAY IT ISN'T SO.
LIFTING YOUR METAL SKIRT THIS SOON IN THE GAME.
I REMEMBER NOT TOO LONG AGO YOU DOING WHATEVER WILSON FISK TOLD YOU TO.
HE WAS PAYING ME.
EXACTLY.
PUT IT UP.

BETTY SIMPSON AND HER ROOMMATE VERONICA ROBBINS OF GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY WERE TRAVELING ACROSS COUNTRY TO GET AWAY FROM A CHEATING BOYFRIEND.
THE LAST CONTACT SHE HAD WITH THE PLANET EARTH WAS A CELL PHONE CALL TO THE MAYBE EX-BOYFRIEND'S ANSWERING MACHINE.
HIS NAME IS SCOTT GOODMAN. PRE-MED.
THE CALL WAS CUT OFF, BUT H.A.M.M.E.R. TRIANGULATED THE SIGNAL AND ITS POINT OF ORIGIN WAS A SMALL TOWN IN COLORADO CALLED DINOSAUR.
DINOSAUR.
COLORADO.
REALLY?
REALLY. POPULATION 319.
319? SOUNDS LIKE HEAVEN.
IT WAS THE BOYFRIEND.
NO.
BET YA FIVE DOLLARS.
HE WAS AND IS IN WASHINGTON, D.C. HE WAS IN CLASS. HUNDREDS OF WHADDAYA CALL THEM...
EYEWITNESSES.
YEP.
BET RESCINDED.
WHO WANTS TO EARN SOME EXTRA BROWNIE POINTS WITH ME AND SWING OVER THERE AND--?
THE THING IS, SIR-- BEFORE YOU START-- AFTER A LITTLE MORE DIGGING, H.A.M.M.E.R. FOUND THERE HAVE BEEN FORTY-FOUR SIMILAR INCIDENTS IN NEIGHBORING COUNTIES.
PEOPLE OF ALL SHAPES AND SIZES. ALL WALKS OF LIFE...
MISSING.
MOSTLY PEOPLE PASSING THROUGH.
ANYONE WHO COMES NEAR THE AREA JUST UP AND DISAPPEARS.
AND SATELLITE?
NOTHING. QUIET.
A SMALL TOWN THAT LIKES DINOSAURS.
LOOK. IT'S JUST A SMALL TOWN. IT COULDN'T BE SMALLER.
IT'S LITERALLY THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE.
DINOSAUR, COLORADO.
BOB, WOULD YOU MIND?

WELL DONE. VERY ORGANIZED.
SIR, I--
I'M OKAY, MISS HAND.
YOU LOCKED YOURSELF IN YOUR LAB FOR TWO DAYS.
I WAS WORKING.
WHY ARE YOU IN FULL BATTLE ARMOR?
I'M CALIBRATING NEW SOFTWARE.
CAN YOU TAKE OFF YOUR HELMET, PLEASE?
EVERYTHING IS FINE.
HOW SOON TILL BOB GETS THERE?
TWELVE MINUTES.
LOOK AT HIM GO.
BOB, CAN YOU HEAR ME?
YOU'RE VEERING TO THE RIGHT A LITTLE.
OH, SORRY.

HEY...
YOU STARTING WITH ME NOW, DOCTOR?
OH, AM I BOTHERING YOU?
BOTHERING? NO. I JUST DON'T TRUST YOU.
DOESN'T MEAN YOU DON'T LIKE ME.
FIRST THE ALIEN BOY, AND WHATEVER YOU DID TO HIM THAT SENT HIM RUNNING FOR THE HILLS...
I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING TO HIM.
AND NOW ALL OF A SUDDEN YOU GIVE ME THE OLD WINK AND NOD.
OKAY. I'LL TELL YOU.
I AM IMPRESSED WITH THE NEW YOU.
I LIKE HAWKEYE. BULLSEYE'S STILL A PSYCHOTIC CREEP.
BUT YOU AS HAWKEYE. THAT IS WORKING.
YOU'VE BEEN VERY IMPRESSIVE OUT THERE.
IT'S AN ALL-NEW YOU.

I'M HERE. I THINK.
WHAT DO YOU SEE?
NOTHING. IT'S QUIET.
I'D, YOU KNOW, SAY IT'S TOO QUIET, BUT I DON'T LIKE SAYING THINGS LIKE THAT.
BUT IT IS.
WELL, FLY DOWN THERE. GIVE THOSE YOKELS A THRILL.
BE GENTLE. FRIENDLY. YOU REPRESENT US.
YES, THAT, TOO.
THERE'S NO ONE ON THE STREET.
NO ONE AT ALL?
JUST THESE DINOSAUR STATUES. THEY REALLY DO SEEM TO LIKE DINOSAURS.
IT'S SO ODD. IT DOESN'T LOOKED ABANDONED.
IT LOOKS LIVED IN.
OKAY, KNOCK ON SOME DOORS. SEE IF THEY HAVE A POLICE STATION OR...
OH, HEY, THERE'S SOMEONE.
HEY!
UH, EXCUSE ME, I'M--

HUURR!!
WHAT'S WRONG?
BOB?

BOB?
WHAT HAPPENED?
OH MY GOD.
BOB?
AVENGERS!!! ASSEMBLE!!

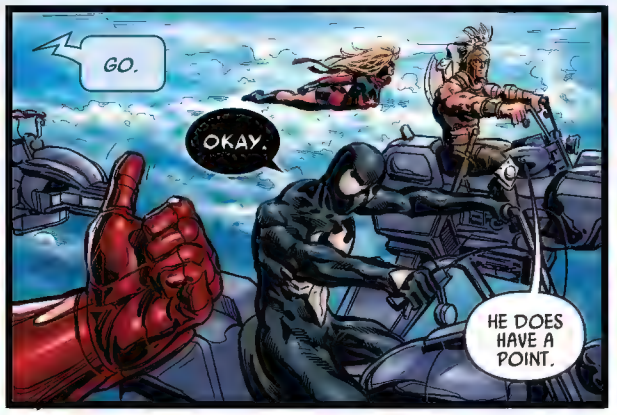
COLORADO TOUCHDOWN IN TEN MINUS.

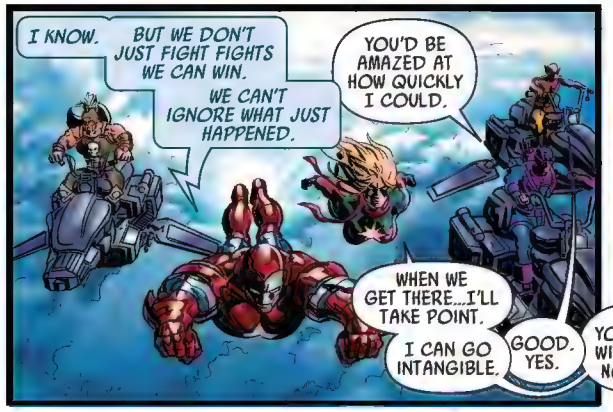
UH, I'M SORRY. HOW IS THIS A GOOD IDEA?

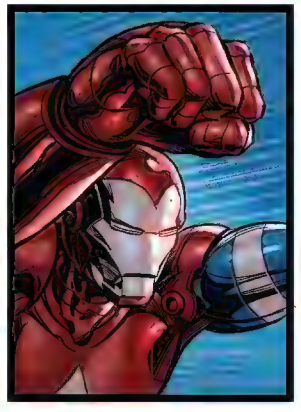
WHAT?

I MEAN, THE SENTRY'S MORE POWERFUL THAN ALL OF US PUT TOGETHER.

I MEAN, RIGHT? I MEAN, HE'S SO POWERFUL HE'S CRAZY.



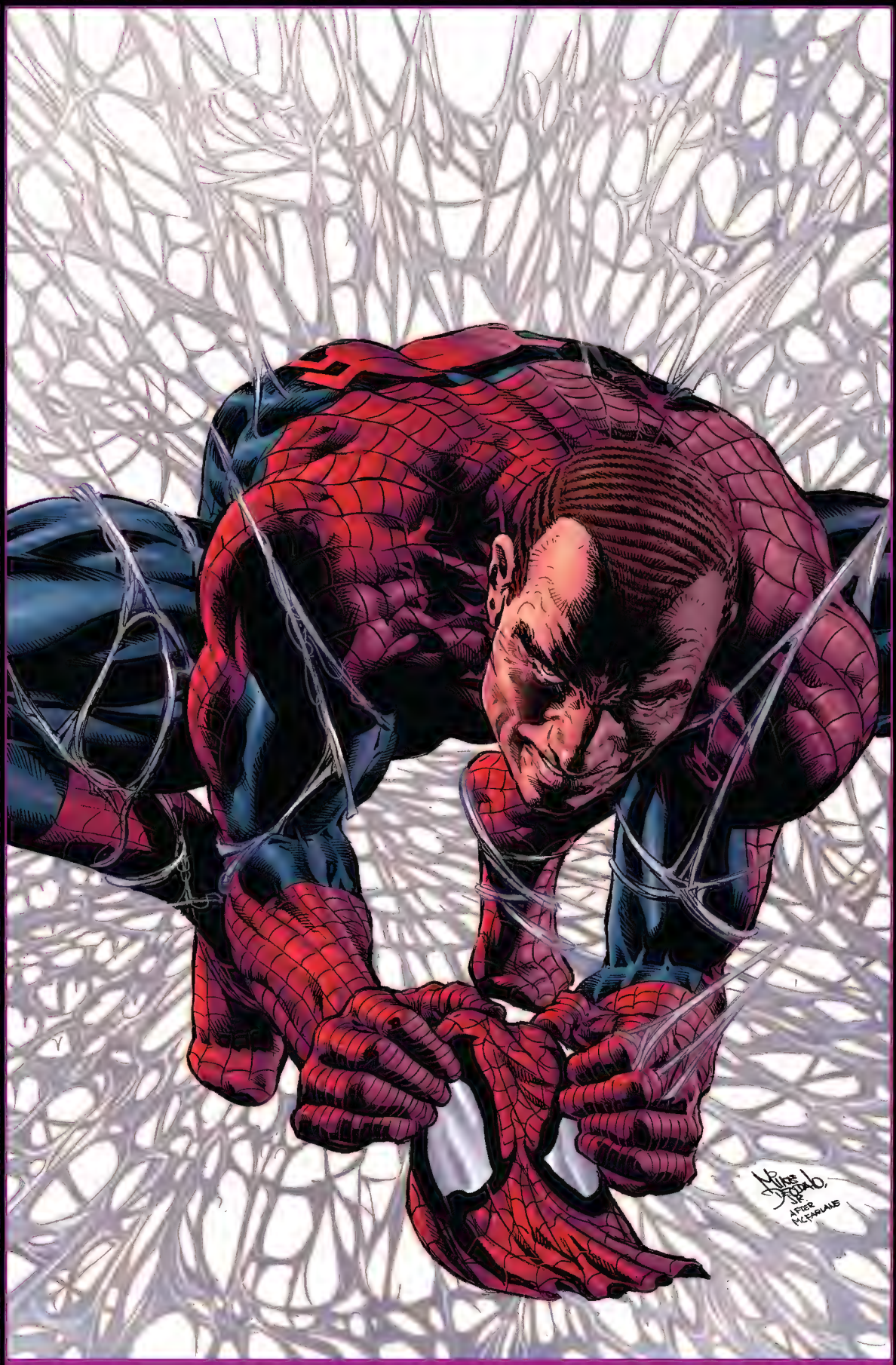




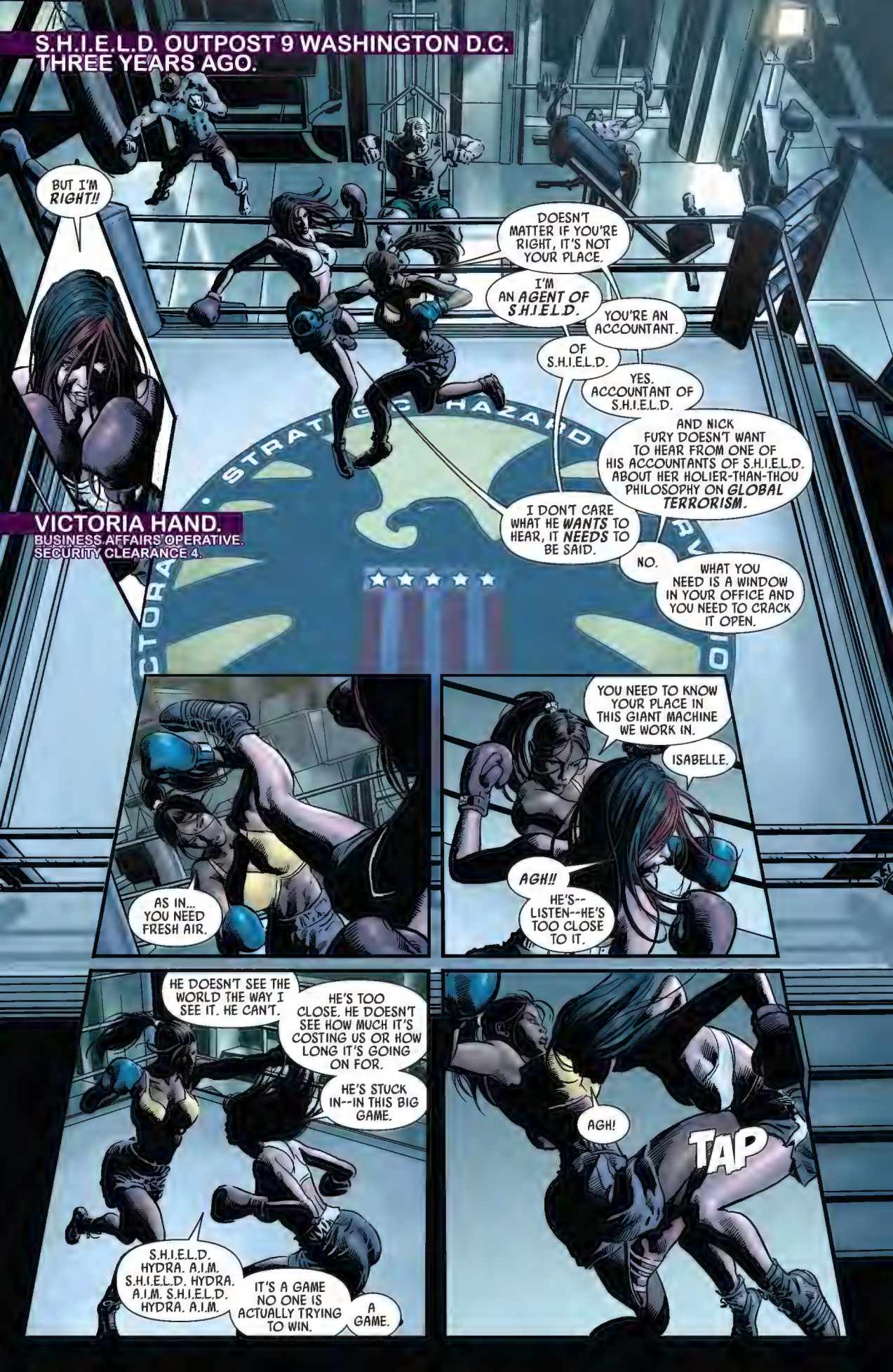
I AM GETTING THE FEELING THIS IS ONE OF THOSE THINGS I ABSOLUTELY WOULD MIND DYING OVER.
SO IF I DO DIE HERE, I'M GOING TO BE VERY PISSED.
KEEP IT PROFESSIONAL.
I'M SPEAKING PROFESSIONALLY. I WILL BE PROFESSIONALLY PISSED.
YOU GUYS GETTING ANYTHING UP THERE? ANY READINGS?
THIS IS HAND. NOTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY.
DO YOU SEE ANYONE? ANYTHING AT ALL THAT--?
THERE'S NO ONE ON THE STREET. THERE'S PLANTS.
SO THERE IS LIFE. TREES. I MEAN, THERE ARE--
WAIT, I THINK I KNOW WHAT--
UM, WHAT WAS THAT?
DID SHE-- JUST...
OSBORN, I THINK WE SHOULD RETREAT.
UM, I THINK YOU MAY BE RIGHT. I THINK WE'RE IN SOME SORT OF--
VICTORIA. COME IN...
THIS IS OSB--
AND THERE HE IS.
NORMAN OSBORN.
KING OF THE WORLD.
THAT'S SO FUNNY TO ME...

BECAUSE TO US IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF ANYTHING AT ALL.

DARK AVENGERS #9 PAGES 11-12 LAYOUT SKETCH & INKS BY
MIKE DEODATO JR.



DARK AVENGERS #11


S.H.I.E.L.D. OUTPOST 9 WASHINGTON D.C.
THREE YEARS AGO.
BUT I'M RIGHT!!
DOESN'T MATTER IF YOU'RE RIGHT, IT'S NOT YOUR PLACE.
I'M AN AGENT OF S.H.I.E.L.D.
YOU'RE AN ACCOUNTANT.
OF S.H.I.E.L.D.
YES. ACCOUNTANT OF S.H.I.E.L.D.
AND NICK FURY DOESN'T WANT TO HEAR FROM ONE OF HIS ACCOUNTANTS OF S.H.I.E.L.D. ABOUT HER HOLIER-THAN-THOU PHILOSOPHY ON GLOBAL TERRORISM.
I DON'T CARE WHAT HE WANTS TO HEAR, IT NEEDS TO BE SAID.
NO.
WHAT YOU NEED IS A WINDOW IN YOUR OFFICE AND YOU NEED TO CRACK IT OPEN.
VICTORIA HAND.
BUSINESS AFFAIRS OPERATIVE.
SECURITY CLEARANCE 4.
AS IN... YOU NEED FRESH AIR.
YOU NEED TO KNOW YOUR PLACE IN THIS GIANT MACHINE WE WORK IN.
ISABELLE.
AGH!!
HE'S--LISTEN--HE'S TOO CLOSE TO IT.
HE DOESN'T SEE THE WORLD THE WAY I SEE IT. HE CAN'T.
HE'S TOO CLOSE. HE DOESN'T SEE HOW MUCH IT'S COSTING US OR HOW LONG IT'S GOING ON FOR.
HE'S STUCK IN--IN THIS BIG GAME.
S.H.I.E.L.D. HYDRA. A.I.M. S.H.I.E.L.D. HYDRA. A.I.M. S.H.I.E.L.D. HYDRA. A.I.M.
IT'S A GAME NO ONE IS ACTUALLY TRYING TO WIN.
A GAME.
AGH!
TAP

VICTORIA, I LOVE YOU.
I DO.
I LOVE YOU TOO.
THEN LISTEN TO ME: DO NOT SEND THE LETTER.
WHY ARE YOU AN AGENT OF S.H.I.E.L.D.?
BECAUSE THEY HAVE THE BEST FLYING CARS.
NO JOKES. WHY ARE YOU AN AGENT OF S.H.I.E.L.D.?
BECAUSE I BELIEVE IN THE POSSIBILITY OF A FREE WORLD. A WORLD WITHOUT TERROR. A WORLD OF EQUALITY.
YOU'RE A PATRIOT.
I AM. I'M A HUMANIST.
SO AM I.
AND NO ONE IS SAYING YOU'RE NOT.
DON'T SEND IT.
IF I DON'T SPEAK MY MIND, I AM SAYING I'M NOT.

S.H.I.E.L.D. HELICARRIER.
FLOATING WORLD HEADQUARTERS OF THE U.N. PEACEKEEPING TASK FORCE.
1200 FEET OVER LANGLEY, VIRGINIA.
COLONEL FURY, YOU NEED TO SIGN OFF ON THE QUARTERLY BUDGET.
ONE WEEK LATER.
HAVE I EVER TOLD ANY OF YOU HOW MUCH I LOVE SIGNING OFF ON THE QUARTERLY BUDGET?
NO, SIR.
REALLY? I WONDER WHY THAT IS.
IS IT MAYBE BECAUSE YOU DON'T LOVE SIGNING OFF ON THE QUARTERLY BUDGET?
WELL DANG GUM THERE, DUM DUM, YOU'RE SOME KINDA DICK TRACY.
HUH.
"DEAR COLONEL FURY. MY NAME IS VICTORIA HAND. I'M A BUSINESS AFFAIRS AGENT WORKING UNDER YOU."
WHAT IS THAT?
"BUT I FEEL I MUST VOICE MY PERSONAL DISAPPOINTMENT IN YOUR INABILITY TO MAKE ANY FORWARD MOMENTUM IN OUR WAR AGAINST GLOBAL TERRORISM."
ARE YOU KIDDING ME?
WOW.
DO I NEED THIS?
NO SIR.
YOU'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS.
YES SIR.
I SPECIFICALLY DON'T GO ON THE INTERNET TO AVOID THINGS LIKE THIS...
YES SIR.
IT'S LIKE THE INTERNET IS STALKING ME.

WHAT IS ALL THAT?
MY STUFF.
DID--DID YOU GET FIRED???!!
TRANSFERRED.
TRANSFERRED?
WHERE?
PORTLAND, OREGON.
WHY? WHAT HAPPENED?
YOU SENT THE LETTER.
I TOLD YOU NOT TO AND NOW YOU @#$% UP OUR LIFE TOGETHER.
WE'RE DONE.
DON'T EVER CALL ME.

H.A.M.M.E.R. HELICARRIER.
FLOATING WORLD HEADQUARTERS OF THE AMERICAN PEACEKEEPING TASK FORCE. 1000 FEET OVER DINOSAUR, COLORADO.
NOW.
ATTENTION ALL STATIONS!! THIS IS DEPUTY DIRECTOR VICTORIA HAND!
ALL BATTLE STATIONS ARE ORDERED TO GOLD LEVEL STANDBY!
WE ARE IN STAND-DOWN TILL FURTHER ORDERS!
UM, THE AVENGERS ARE GONE.
YES.
THEY DISAPPEARED.
I KNOW!
WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
OSBORN, THIS IS HAND. COME IN?
OSBORN, THIS IS HAND. COME IN?
ARES, THIS IS HAND. COME IN?
SHOW ME THE FOOTAGE. SHOW IT TO ME.
SCREEN 9.
WHICH ONE IS SCREEN 9?
AGAIN.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, MISS HAND?
I THINK I OWE NICK FURY A HUGE APOLOGY.

MISTER OSBORN...MY NAME IS OWEN REESE.
REED RICHARDS NAMED ME THE MOLECULE MAN.
DO YOU KNOW ME?
NO.
WE KNOW YOU, NORMAN OSBORN.
WE WATCH THE OUTSIDE WORLD VERY CLOSELY.
THE COMING AND GOINGS. THE POWER-BROKERING.
WE KNEW YOU'D COME HERE EVENTUALLY. YOU OR...SOMEONE LIKE YOU.
WHERE AM I?
IN MY WORLD ACCORDING TO ME.
WHERE IS MY TEAM?
HOW ARE YOU DOING ALL THIS?
I HAVE THE ABILITY TO BREAK THE RULES OF PHYSICAL SCIENCE.
I CONTROL THE VERY MOLECULES OF THE WORLD.
WELL, THE ONES AROUND ME.
AND YOU CAME INTO MY WORLD. SO I CONTROL THE WORLD AROUND YOU.
OKAY, OKAY, LET'S JUST--LET'S BACK UP HERE...
HOW CAN I HELP YOU? HOW CAN I HELP YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS?
MY FRIENDS?
WE'RE NOT HIS FRIENDS.
OWEN DOESN'T HAVE ANY REAL FRIENDS IN THE REAL WORLD.
THE WORLD WASN'T MADE FOR HIM.
WE'RE THE FRIENDS HE MADE.
THE FRIENDS HE DESERVES.
WE'RE THE FRIENDS HE SHOULD HAVE.
IF THE WORLD WERE A FAIR PLACE.
SO, NONE OF THIS IS REAL.
REAL?
TRUST ME... THIS IS AS REAL AS REAL GETS.
YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW REAL?

HEY! CUT THE CRAP.
YOU WANT TO TALK TO ME, YOU GIVE ME MY TEAM BACK, YOU SHOW ME THE DOOR.
YOU AND I GO OUTSIDE AND WE TALK LIKE MEN.
BUT THIS THING YOU'RE DOING HERE--YOU'RE THREATENING ME.
AND THAT IS NOT SOMETHING YOU WANT TO DO.

YOU'RE RIGHT.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
I DON'T WANT TO DO THAT.
I WANT TO BE LEFT ALONE.
I WANT THIS LITTLE PIECE OF THE WORLD AND I WANT TO BE LEFT ALONE.

WELL, IT'S NOT YOUR CALL TO MAKE AND IT'S NOT YOUR LAND TO HAVE.
THIS IS AMERICAN SOIL. IT'S NOT YOURS.
AND AS FAR AS ME BEING HERE--YOU MADE THAT CHOICE WHEN YOU ATTACKED ME AND MY TEAM.
AND ALL THOSE OTHER PEOPLE YOU DID WHO KNOWS WHAT WITH--

I'M NOT GOING TO KILL YOU, MISTER OSBORN.

UH... GOOD TO KNOW.

I'M NOT GOING TO KILL YOU.
BUT I COULD.
OKAY...
EASILY.
NOW THAT IS A THREAT.
IT'S NOT.

I COULD--RIGHT NOW--I COULD PULL THE GENETIC CODES OF YOUR PHYSICAL BODY APART.
I COULD DO IT VERY FAST OR I COULD DO IT PAINFULLY, PAINFULLY SLOW.
BUT MY POINT IS, I COULD DO IT RIGHT NOW.
BUT I WON'T.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW WHY?

IF I DID...OTHERS WOULD COME LOOKING FOR YOU.
IF I DID, THE PERSON THEY HIRE TO REPLACE YOU WOULD NOT STOP COMING AT ME.
THEY WOULD COME AND COME. AND KEEP COMING AND KEEP COMING.
AND I WOULD HAVE TO KILL THEM.
IT'S OKAY, BABY.
NO, I WOULD... I WOULD HAVE TO KILL EACH AND EVERY ONE. JUST TO SAVE MY HOME.

AND THEN REED RICHARDS WOULD COME HERE WITH SOME SORT OF AN INVENTION THAT WOULD TRICK ME BACK INTO--INTO INCARCERATION AGAIN.
AND ALL I WANT IS TO BE LEFT ALONE.
HE JUST WANTS TO BE LEFT ALONE.
WHY HERE, THEN? LEAVE THE COUNTRY AND YOU AND ME HAVE NO PROBLEMS.

BECAUSE THIS IS MINE!
THIS IS MY LIFE. AND THIS IS WHERE I WANT TO LIVE IT. I GREW UP HERE.

THEN I NEED MY TEAM, AND I NEED ALL THE PEOPLE YOU SENT MISSING. THE GIRLS.
I WAS UNTIL YOU TOLD ME YOU WEREN'T GOING TO KILL ME.
YOU'RE NOT SCARED OF ME.
KILLING IS EASY.

THERE'S OTHER THINGS.

WHY?

NO!!
I DID MY HOMEWORK ON YOU.
I WAS READY.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE BRAIN IS MADE OUT OF, MISTER OSBORN?
DO YOU KNOW WHAT SECRET FILES ARE MADE OUT OF?
MOLECULES.
I KNOW ALL YOUR SECRETS AND LIES.
I'M NOT GOING TO KILL YOU.
BUT WHEN THEY FIND YOU...
YOU--
--WELL, YOU GET THE PICTURE.

THE ONLY THING ABOUT YOU I DON'T UNDERSTAND IS...
HOW LONG DID YOU THINK YOU WERE GOING TO HAVE THIS JOB, ANYHOW?
EVERYBODY WANTS YOU TO FAIL.
EVEN THE PEOPLE WHO ARE ROOTING FOR YOU--SECRETLY, THEY KNOW WHAT YOU ARE AND THEY KNOW WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO YOU....
THEY'RE JUST WAITING! WHEN WILL HE SNAP?
WELL, FOR MY PURPOSES, I CAN'T WAIT. THE SOONER THE BETTER.
AND IF I CAN HELP IT ALONG...ALL THE BETTER.
BUT I'M NOT GOING TO KILL YOU...

EVERYONE!! HEY!!
EVERYONE. JUST. CALM. DOWN.
WE NEED TO SEND IN AN AIR ASSAULT ON THE ENTIRE--
NO.
WELL, WE CAN'T DO NOTHING!
YOU WERE NOT TRAINED TO PANIC AT THE FIRST SIGN OF TROUBLE.
IF THAT CONCERNS YOU, THEN YOU MAY LEAVE MY BRIDGE!
HEY!! I'M DEPUTY DIRECTOR! ME!
THAT MEANS I'M IN CHARGE HERE!
WITH ALL DUE RESPECT...WE HAVE TO LAUNCH AN ATTACK.
NOW.
ALL HE WAS SAYING--AND YOU NEED TO HEAR HIM--IS THE SHEER POWER LEVEL OF THESE AVENGERS--
WHATEVER IS DOWN THERE...WHATEVER IT IS...IT GOT RID OF THEM LIKE THAT.
BECAUSE IF THAT THING DID THAT TO THEM, WHAT CHANCE--WHAT CHANCE DO ANY OF US HAVE?!
I'M WORKING ON IT.

AGH!
OH GOD...
UGGHH!!
WHO ARE YOU?
WHO ARE YOU?
I'M OWEN.
I'M BOBBY.
I KNOW YOU'RE BOB REYNOLDS. I KNOW YOU'RE THE SENTRY... BUT WHO ARE YOU? WHAT ARE YOU MADE OF, BOBBY?
ARE--NNN-- ARE YOU DOING THIS TO ME?
I'VE TASTED EVERY MOLECULE IN THE WORLD.
BUT I'VE NEVER TASTED ANYTHING LIKE YOU.
TASTED?
EXPERIENCED.
COULD YOU STOP THIS? PLEASE, PLEASE...
YOU'LL HURT ME IF I LET YOU GO.
I--NO, I WON'T.
YOU WILL.
NORMAN OSBORN TOLD YOU TO.
I'M SORRY.

WE COULD HAVE BEEN FRIENDS.

GUH!!
GUH!!
HELP! SOMEBODY HELP ME!
GUYS?!? NORMAN?!?
OH, NO... OW!!
AARRGGHH!!
OH GOD...
GGAAAGGHH!!

I'VE SEPARATED ALL YOU "AVENGERS" SO I CAN DEAL WITH YOU AS INDIVIDUALS.
I WATCHED YOU FROM AFAR BEFORE YOU GOT HERE. I SAW YOU ON TV. AND I WONDERED: WHAT KIND OF HEROES ARE THESE?
BUT IT SEEMS YOU'RE NOT HEROES AT ALL.
YOU'RE CRIMINALS.
YOU'RE SEEDY CON MEN.
NORMAN OSBORN I SORT OF UNDERSTAND... THE REST OF YOU....
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO MAKE OF YOU.
NNGGAAAHHH!!
TAKE YOUR TIME.
I--I KNOW WHO YOU ARE. YOU'RE MAKING A HUGE MISTAKE HERE.
JUST CALM DOWN. I WANT TO HAVE A CONVERSATION WITH YOU.
YOU CRAZY--!!
FFSSHHAAAMMM
I'M TRYING TO TALK--
BUT I SEE THERE'S NO REASONING WITH YOU.
FINE.

WOLVERINE'S SON.
'MGONNA KILL YOU!!
AND YOU'RE FIGHTING AGAINST ME. HOW ARE YOU EVEN--?
OH, YOU HAVE A HEALING FACTOR. YES, I HAD THE SAME PROBLEM WITH YOUR FATHER.
HE ALWAYS FOUND A WAY TO FIGHT PAST ME.
RRRR!!!

YOU KNOW, ARES, GOD OF WAR...
I THINK WE'VE RUN INTO EACH OTHER BEFORE, NOW THAT I GET A CLOSER LOOK.
BUT THAT'S NEITHER HERE NOR THERE.
WHAT'S IMPORTANT HERE IS I HAVE TO FIGURE OUT WHAT TO DO WITH YOU.
I HAVE TO SEND AT LEAST MOST OF YOU BACK TO THE WORLD IN A WAY THAT STOPS YOU AND GUARANTEES THEY SEND NO ONE ELSE.
IF I SEND YOU BACK LIKE THIS, THEY'LL JUST SEND IN REED RICHARDS.
THIS IS A CHANCE TO NOT MAKE THE SAME MISTAKES AGAIN.
THIS IS A CHANCE TO--TO BE SMARTER.
I CAN BE SMARTER... I CAN.
YOU SHOULD RUN AWAY.
THEY'D NEVER FIND YOU.
I DON'T WANT TO.
THESE AREN'T SUPER HEROES. THEY'RE MURDERERS.
THEY'LL KILL YOU IF THEY CAN.
IF YOU GIVE THEM A CHANCE.
I KNOW, I KNOW.
DID YOU SEE THE ONE THEY CALL HAWKEYE?

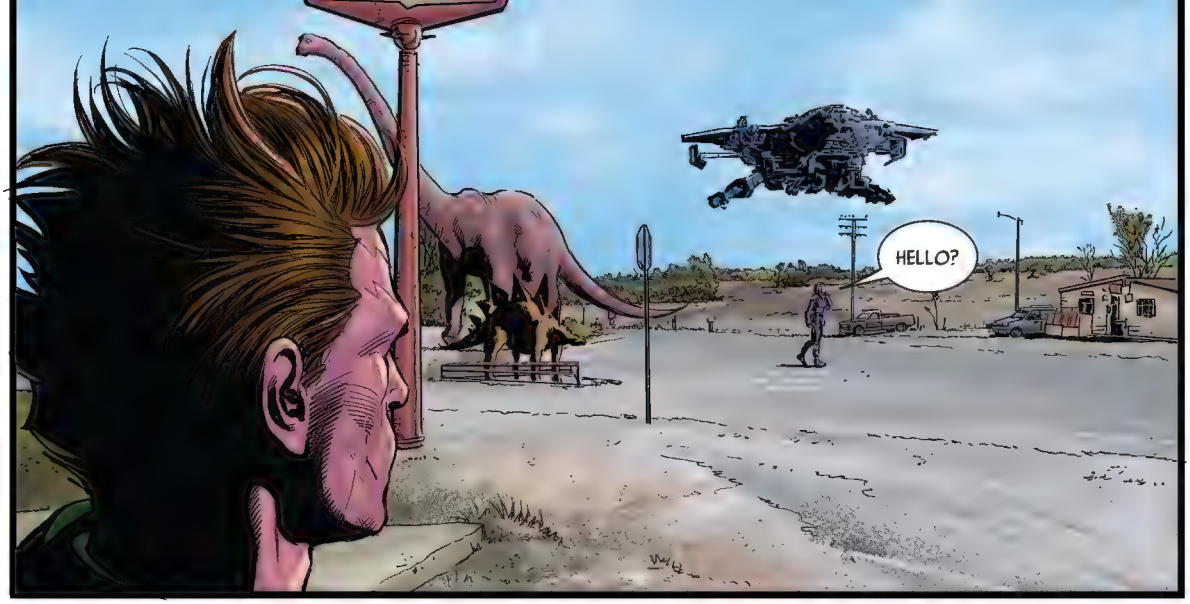
YOU TURNED HIM INTO WATER.
I THOUGHT IT WAS A GENTLE WAY TO SUBDUE HIM.
BUT WATCH.

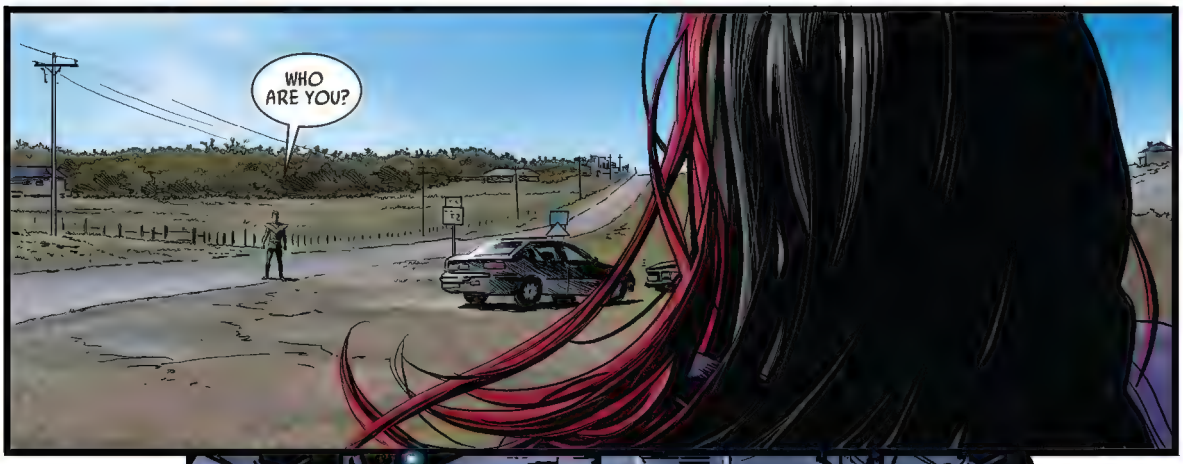
HA!
THAT IS ANGRY WATER.

HE'S A FIGHTER.
HE'S A KILLER.
YOU SHOULD DRINK IT.
YES.
NO. YOU SHOULD KILL THEM ALL AND RUN AWAY.

NO!! NO!!
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU WANT TO BE FOUND, OWEN.
WHAT?
YOU WANT TO FAIL. YOU KILLED ALL THOSE PEOPLE.
YOU'RE ALMOST BEGGING TO BE FOUND HERE.
WHAT DID YOU THINK WOULD HAPPEN??

NO. NO. I WAS PROTECTING MY HOME.
YOU DID THIS.
HELLO?


HELLO?

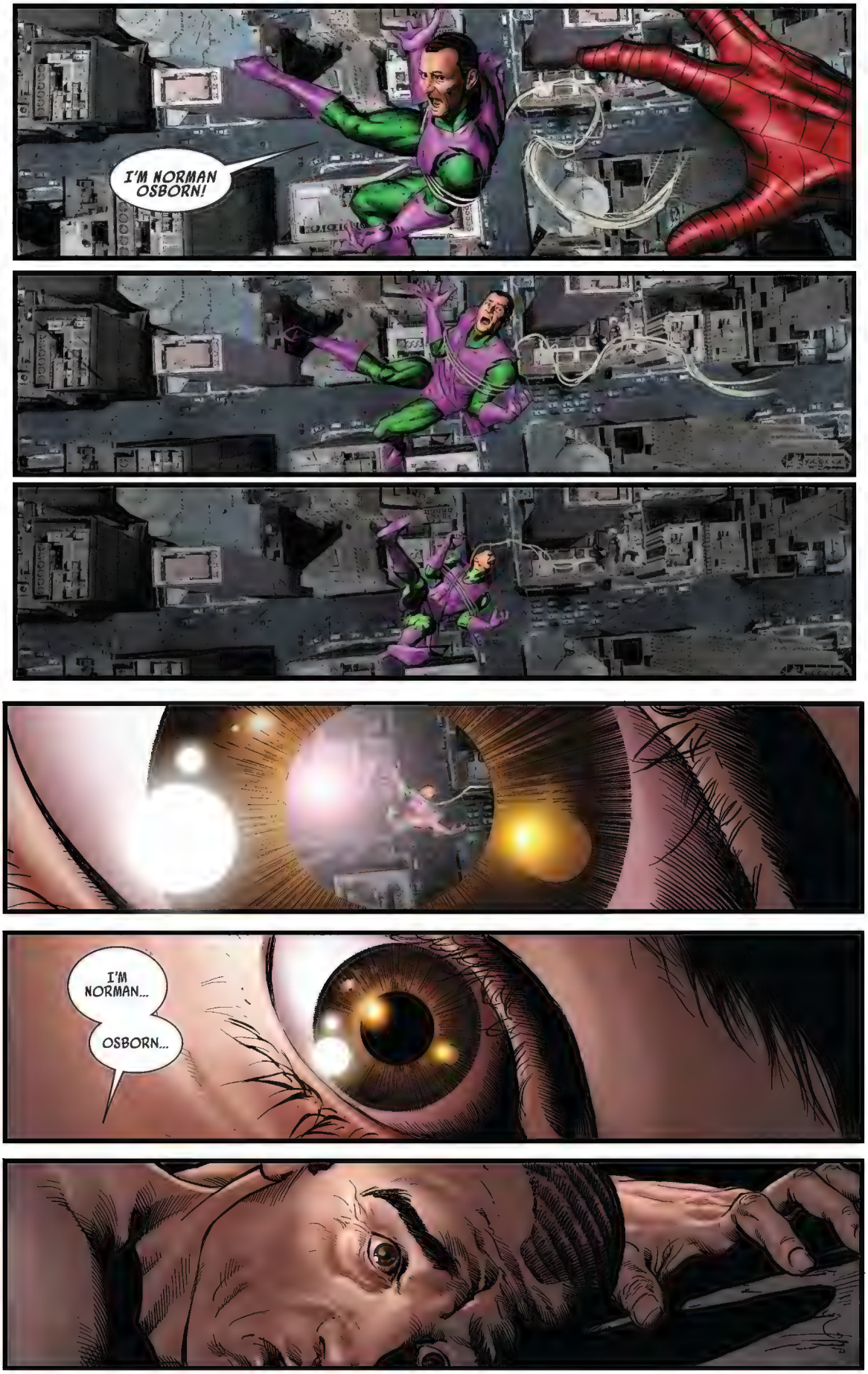

WHO ARE YOU?

MY NAME IS VICTORIA HAND.
ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA...WE SURRENDER.

DARK AVENGERS #10 COVER SKETCHES BY
MIKE DEODATO JR.

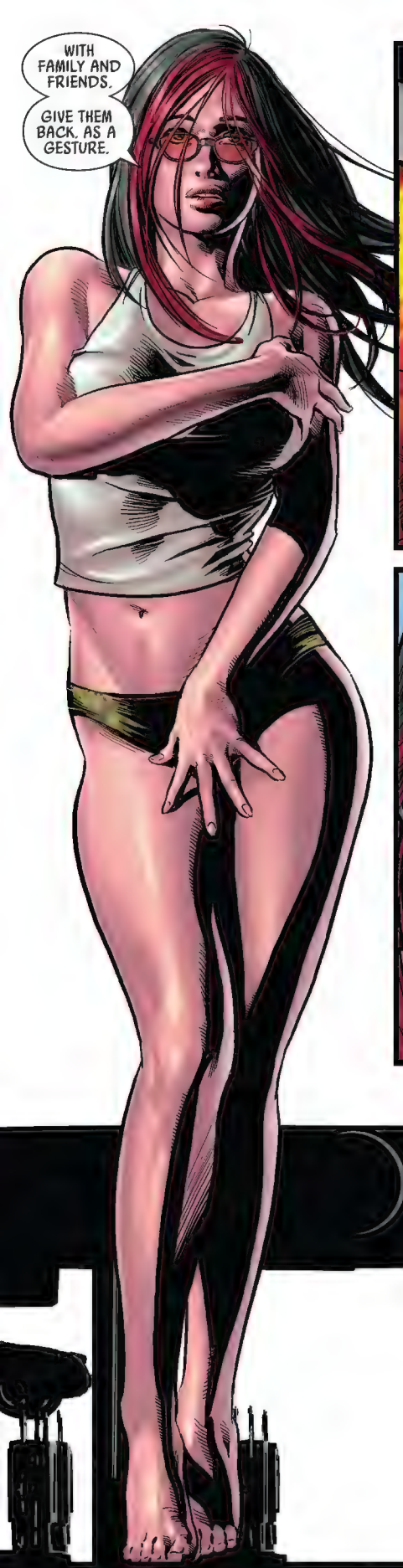
DARK AVENGERS #12

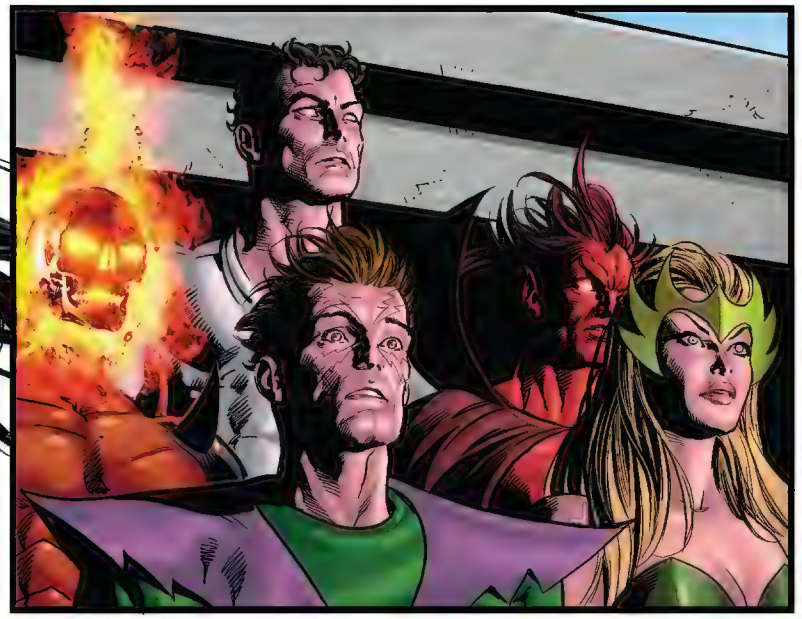
NO! NO!
I'M NORMAN OSBORN!
NORMAN OSBORN!
STOP! I DEMAND IT!
STOP!


I'M NORMAN OSBORN!
I'M NORMAN...
OSBORN...

DINOSAUR, COLORADO.
I'M SORRY?
I SAID: MY NAME IS VICTORIA HAND.
MISTER REESE, ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA...WE SURRENDER.
YOU SURRENDER.
TO ME.
YES. NO ONE IS GOING TO FIGHT YOU. NO ONE WANTS TO FIGHT YOU.
YOU'RE OWEN REESE, RIGHT?
YES.
WELL, YOU'RE THE MOLECULE MAN.
WE HAVE NO WAY TO FIGHT A MAN WHO CAN CONTROL THE MOLECULES AROUND HIM.
WE CAN'T DO IT.
YOU JUST TOOK DOWN THE AVENGERS. AND YOU DID IT PRETTY QUICKLY.
THAT WAS IT. THAT WAS ALL WE HAD.
SO, YEAH, WE SURRENDER.

SHE MAKES SENSE.
SHE'S LYING. ELIMINATE HER NOW BEFORE SHE CAN HATCH HER PLAN.
WH-WHO ARE OUR FRIENDS?
WHAT PLAN? SHE HAS NO PLAN!
TAKE THE WORLD. NOW!
IT'S YOURS TO HAVE.
I DON'T WANT THE WORLD. I WANT HERE.
THEY'RE MY FRIENDS.
IF YOU'D-- MAYBE IF YOU TOLD ME WHAT IT IS YOU'RE LOOKING FOR, WHAT IT IS YOU WANT...
WE'LL BE HAPPY TO ARRANGE IT FOR YOU IN A PEACEFUL ACCORD.
I WANT TO BE LEFT ALONE.
HERE.
OKAY.
BUT, UH, WHY HERE?
I WAS BORN HERE. THIS IS MY HOME.
I WANT IT.
KILL HER!!
YOU CAN HAVE IT.
AGH!
IF YOU LET THE AVENGERS GO, GIVE THEM BACK IN THE SHAPE THEY CAME HERE IN,
AND ALL THE OTHERS.
WHAT OTHERS?
THE CIVILIANS.
THE PEOPLE THAT HAVE COME THROUGH HERE.
44 PEOPLE ARE MISSING.
NOT INCLUDING THE PEOPLE WHO LIVED HERE.
P-PLEASE STOP.
PEOPLE DID LIVE HERE, I ASSUME.
I AM UNARMED.
44 PEOPLE.


WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS.
GIVE THEM BACK, AS A GESTURE.



ARE THEY--ARE THEY DEAD?

DO THE RIGHT THING AND WE'LL DO THE RIGHT THING BY YOU.
I SWEAR, OWEN.

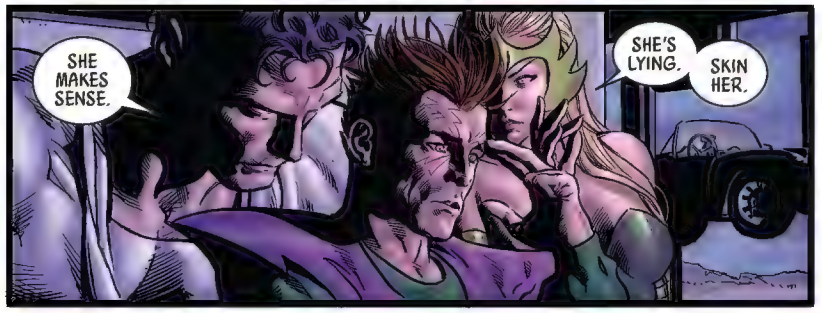
I DON'T THINK THAT'S *TRUE*.
I *THINK* YOU'RE GOING TO TRY TO DESTROY ME.
I'M NOT.
THAT'S ALWAYS WHAT HAPPENS.

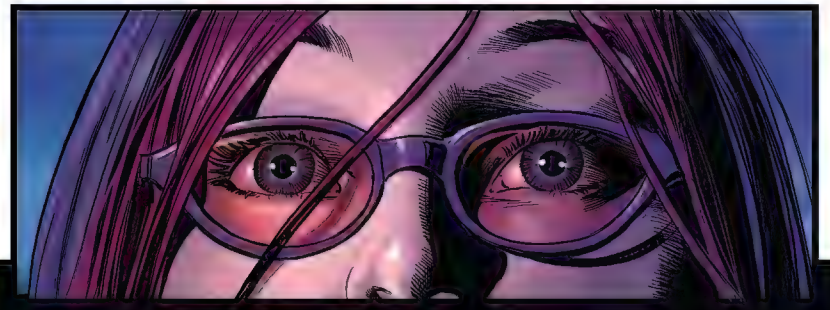
AND--AND HAS ANYONE EVER BEEN ABLE TO?

NO.

WELL THEN--THEN LESSON LEARNED BY ALL PARTIES.
BUT IF YOU DON'T PUT EVERYTHING BACK--IF YOU DON'T MAKE IT RIGHT--
THEY WILL--THEY WILL *NUKE* THIS COUNTRYSIDE OR *WORSE*.
I WON'T BE ABLE TO STOP IT.

AND--AND MAYBE YOU'LL SURVIVE, AND MAYBE YOU WON'T.
BUT THIS LAND WILL BE GONE, OR DAMAGED.
THE FIGHT WILL CONTINUE. AND NEITHER I NOR NORMAN OSBORN NOR ANYONE WILL BE ABLE TO STOP IT.
SO ACCEPT MY SURRENDER...AND--AND WE CAN WORK THIS OUT QUICKLY.


SHE MAKES SENSE.
SHE'S LYING.
SKIN HER.



BONUS
POSE
PERIOD
HOME
VISITOR
AGH!

AS PROMISED.
GUH!!
GAASAUUGGH!!!
WH-WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM?!?!
WHAT DID YOU DO?!!
I TOLD YOU... I REARRANGED A COUPLE OF THE MOLECULES IN HIS BRAIN.
WHAT?!?!
JUST A COUPLE.
THAT'S ALL IT TAKES, (REALLY.)
PUT THEM BACK.
I DID.
WHETHER HE HAS THE CAPACITY TO PULL HIMSELF TOGETHER IS HIS CONCERN.
I CAN'T BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR EVERYTHING.
I TOLD YOU!
NO OSBORN-- NO DEAL!
AND I TOLD YOU, I AGREE.
YOU PEOPLE ATTACKED US. NOT THEMMRR.
WHAT ARE YOU--

I HAVE THIS.

NORMAN?
NORMAN, PLEASE WAKE UP!
PLEASE DON'T MAKE ME TOUCH YOUR NAKEDNESS.
YOU'RE IN MY WORLD, SENTRY!

OH, MY GOD! I DO NOT WANT TO DIE LIKE THIS AT ALL.
NORMAN, SHAKE IT OFF AND TAKE THE LEAD.
HELICARRIER, THIS IS HAND. CHANGE OF PLANS!!
RETREAT!
I REPEAT: THIS IS VICTORIA HAND CALLING FOR A FULL RETREAT!
THEY CAN'T HEAR ME.

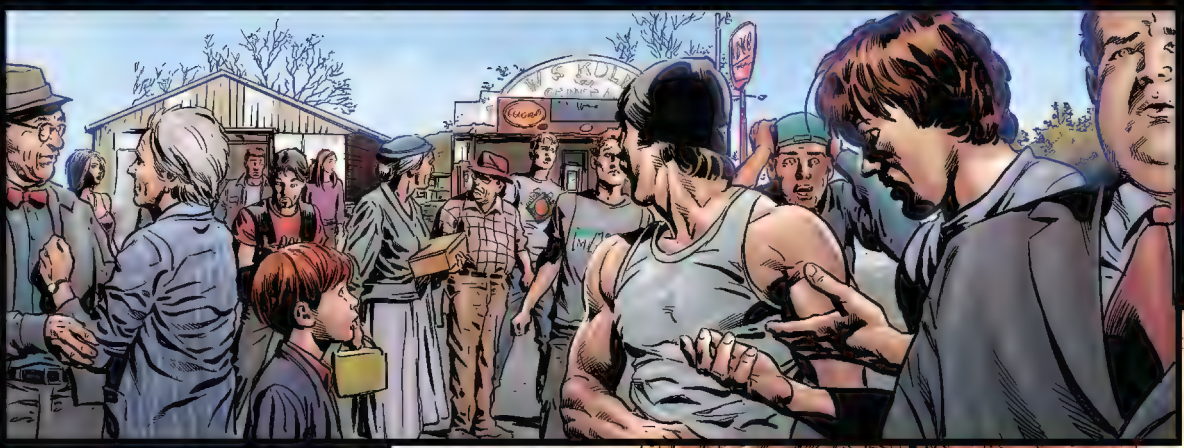
SPLASH
YOU LIARS!
SPLAASH
RRR-- YOU CAN'T--
I TRIED TO STALL THE GUY WITH A FAKE SURRENDER AND NOW IT'S ALL--
TELL THEM-- TELL THEM TO STAND DOWN.
OH, THANK GOD YOU'RE YOU AGAIN.
TELL THEM TO RUN.
I--I DID. THEY CAN'T HEAR US.
WE ONLY HAVE ONE SHOT.

LISTEN TO ME, OWEN...
IF YOU SHOW ME HOW TO PUT EVERYTHING BACK THE WAY IT WAS... I WILL SPARE YOUR LIFE.
YOU HAVE THE EXPERIENCE WITH THIS THAT I DO NOT.

HOW ARE YOU DOING THIS TO ME?!?!
I CONTROL THE MOLECULES!
I DO!

PUT EVERYTHING BACK.

I-IT'S DONE.
ALL OF IT.
ARE YOU SURE?
ALL OF IT.
I SWEAR.



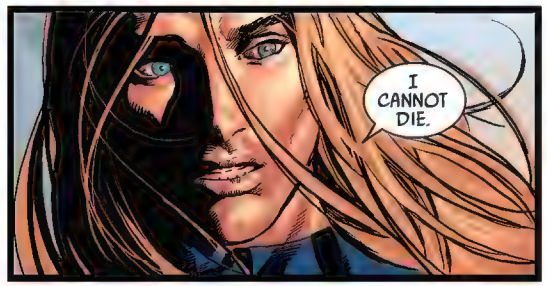
NURURAAGGH!!

THEN GO AWAY.

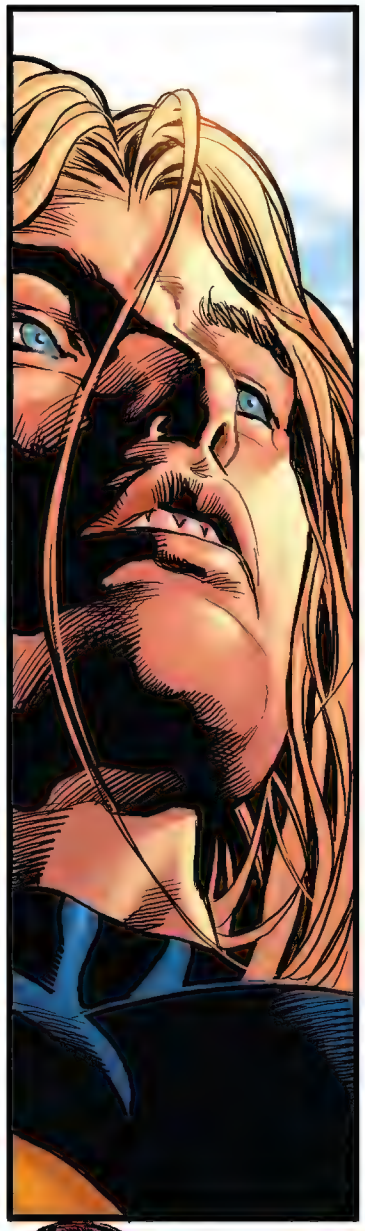
THIS IS HAND.
THIS IS HELICARRIER COMMAND. WHAT DO WE--?
STAND DOWN. OSBORN'S ORDER.
ROBERT?
I LEARNED SOMETHING ABOUT MYSELF TODAY.
WHAT'S THAT, ROBERT?
I CAN CONTROL THE MOLECULES OF MY WORLD.
THAT'S HOW I DO WHAT I DO.
I NEVER KNEW THAT. HOW COULD I?
NO ONE COULD. NOT REED RICHARDS. NOT TONY STARK.
ALL THEY KNEW WAS I WAS DIFFERENT.
WE'RE ALL DIFFERENT, BOB.
WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON? ONE MINUTE WE'RE--
SHH!!
BUT--
HAWKEYE, SHUT IT!!
WE'RE ALL DIFFERENT.
NOW I CAN SEE HOW AND WHY.
NOW I CAN CONTROL IT.

AND TODAY WE LEARNED--WE LEARNED YOU SHOULDN'T PLAY WITH THINGS THAT DON'T BELONG TO YOU.
YOU DON'T WANT TO END UP LIKE OWEN REESE, DO YOU?
NOT KNOWING WHAT'S REAL AND WHAT'S NOT.
NOT HAVING FRIENDS.

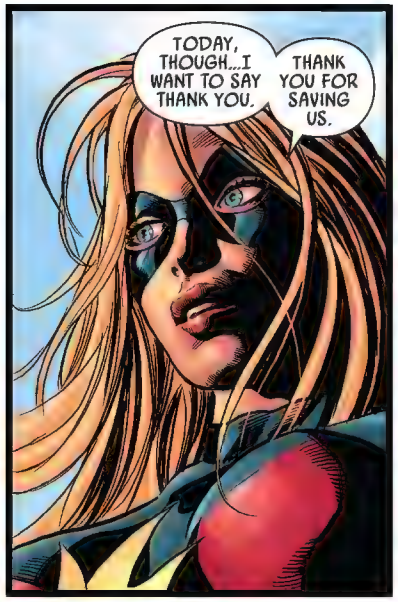
BUT YOU'RE MY FRIEND.
YOU'RE SCARED OF ME.
I AM.
I DON'T WANT TO BE, BOB. I WANT TO BE IN AWE OF YOU.
LIKE I AM EVERY DAY.


I CANNOT DIE.

YOU SAY IT LIKE IT'S A BAD THING.



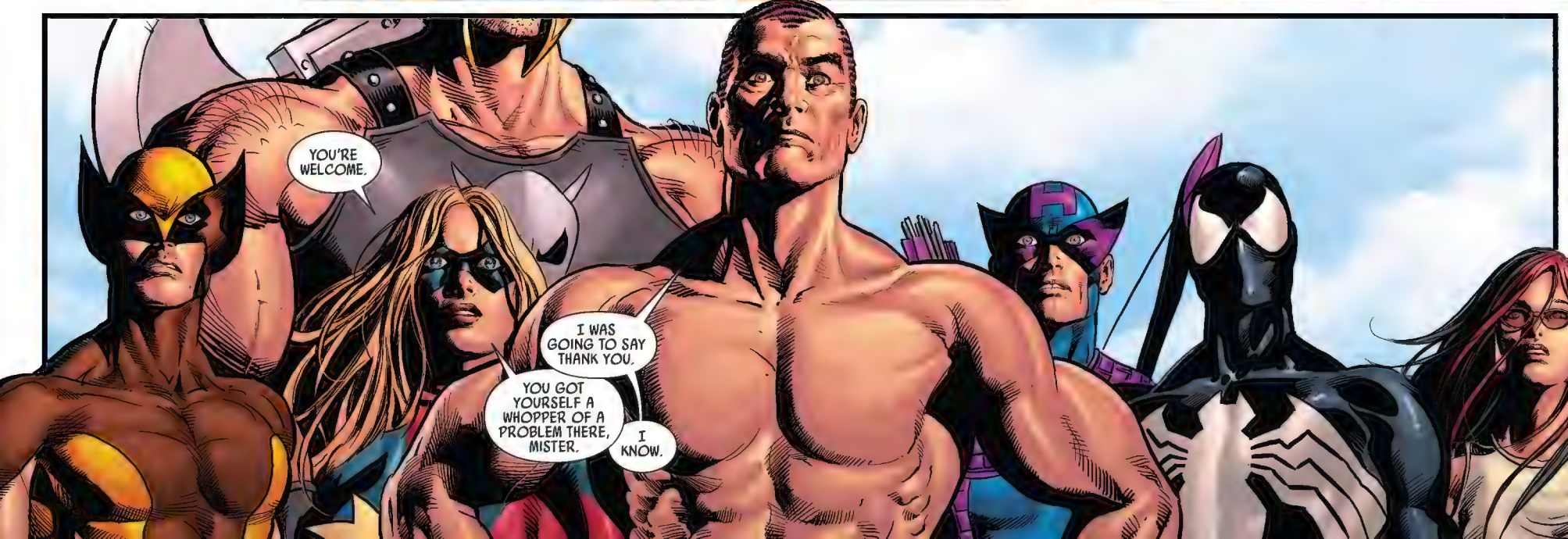
ROBERT. HOW ABOUT YOU AND I TALK.
NOT AS AVENGERS. NOT AS MS. MARVEL AND SENTRY.
BUT AS DOCTOR AND PATIENT.
I'M A PSYCHOLOGIST. AND I SPECIALIZE IN WHAT MAKES PEOPLE LIKE US...SPECIAL.
WE SHOULD TALK THIS OUT.
UM, OKAY.


TODAY, THOUGH...I WANT TO SAY THANK YOU.
THANK YOU FOR SAVING US.

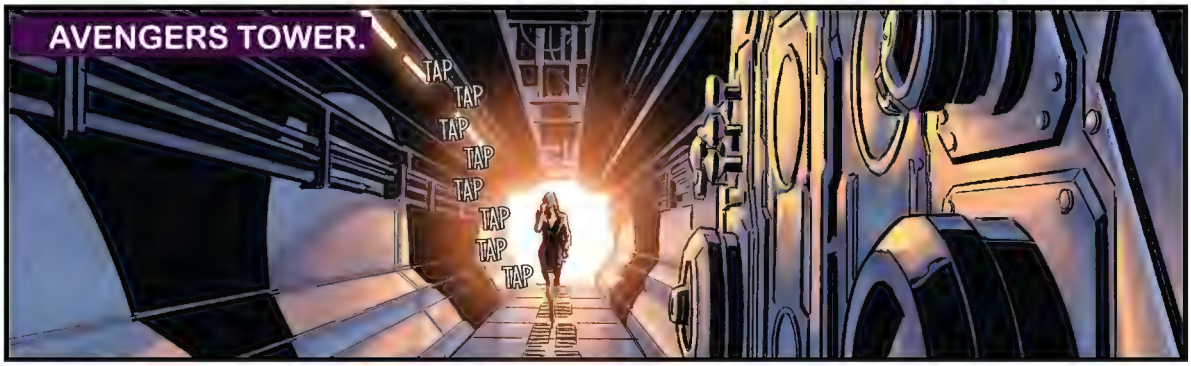
I SAVED YOU?

BOB?

I'M, UH, I'M GOING TO FLY HOME.
UM... GREAT IDEA.


YOU'RE WELCOME.
I WAS GOING TO SAY THANK YOU.
YOU GOT YOURSELF A WHOPPER OF A PROBLEM THERE, MISTER.
I KNOW.

DID YOU READ ABOUT THE SCARLET WITCH? DO YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO HER?
THAT...WAS NOTHING.


AVENGERS TOWER.
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP

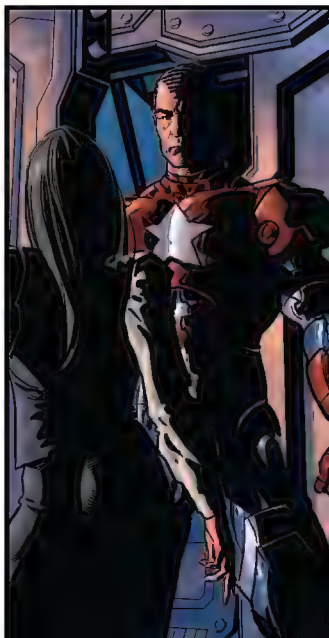
BEEP
VOICE IDENTIFICATION.
VICTORIA HAND.

DOOR ACCESS DENIED.
ACCESS DE--?
DIRECTOR OSBORN? SIR?

I WOULD LIKE TO BE ALONE FOR A FEW MINUTES, MISS HAND. IT'S BEEN A DAY.
I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT TODAY.
I HAVE THE SENTRY THING UNDER CONTROL.
NOT HIM. YOU.
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU OUT THERE?

HE GOT THE UPPER HAND ON ME. I'M OKAY.
SIR, WITH YOUR HISTORY, I WORRY ABOUT--
MISS HAND--
NO.

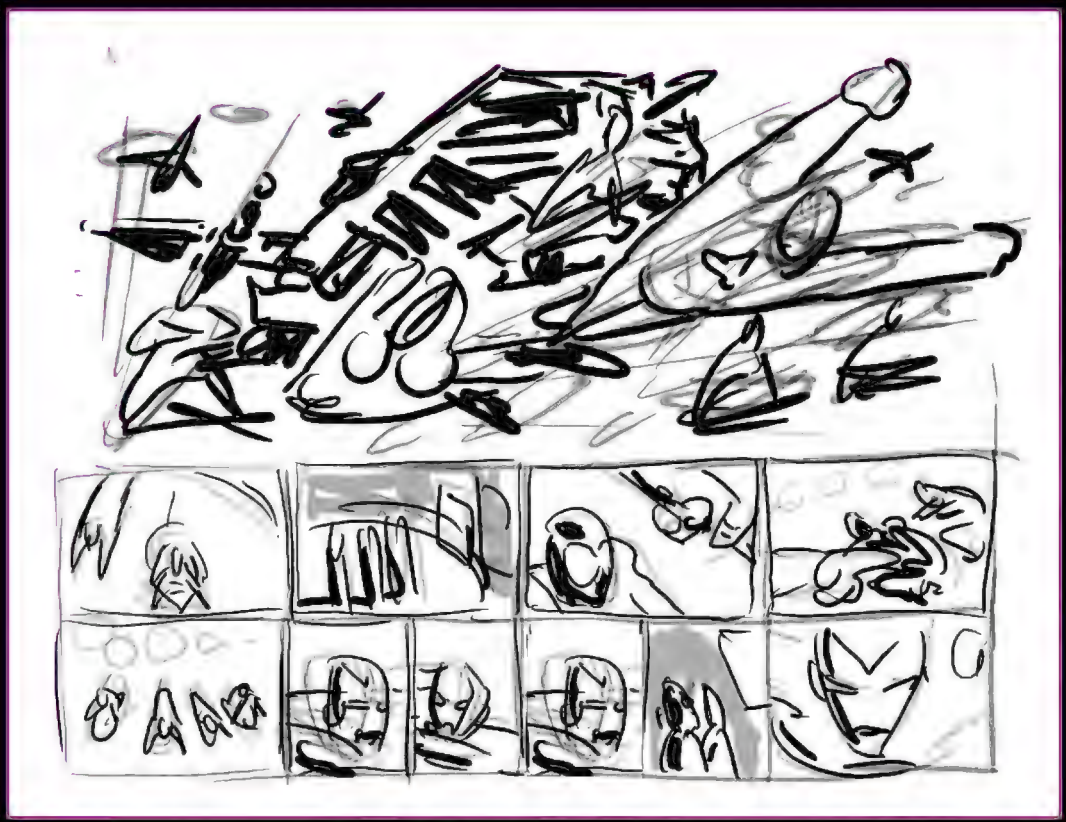
YOU LET ME FINISH MY SENTENCE OR I'M GONE.
I'M NOT YOUR PUPPET. YOU LISTEN!
YOU HAVE A SEVERE HISTORY OF MENTAL ILLNESS! SEVERE!
AND YOU JUST HAD SOMEONE POKE AT YOUR BRAIN WITH A STICK.
YOU NEED TO GET YOURSELF CHECKED. YOU NEED AN EXPERT MEDICAL EVALUATION.
OR...YOU ARE, SIMPLY, NOT FIT TO HOLD YOUR POST.

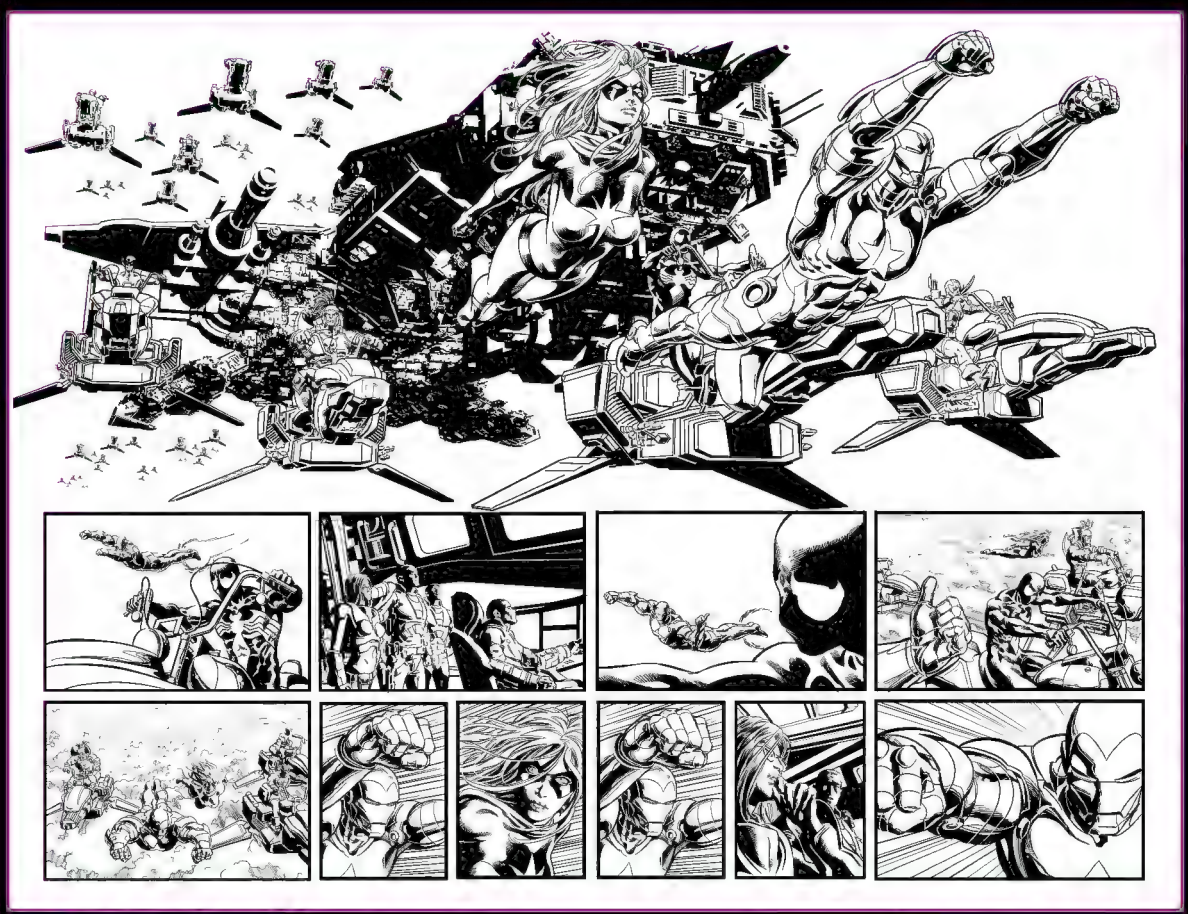


SIR...?
YOU...
...ARE ABSOLUTELY CORRECT.
SET IT UP. THE BEST WE HAVE.
BUT NOT MOONSTONE.
YOU SAID THE BEST WE HAVE.
FUNNY.
SET IT UP FOR TOMORROW.
I LIKE THE MOXIE. THANK YOU.

NN!!
WHYYYYY?!?!
WHY WON'T THIS FACE COME OFF?!?!
NO... NO.
STOP. STOP.
DO THIS...DO IT...
STOP.

DON'T LET THEM SEE YOU...





DARK AVENGERS #10 PAGES 18-19 LAYOUT SKETCH & INKS BY
MIKE DEODATO JR.

DARK AVENGERS ANNUAL #1

SUPREME INTELLIGENCE OF THE KREE EMPIRE.
MY NAME IS NOH-VARR.
I WAS AN ENSIGN ABOARD THE 18TH KREE DIPLOMATIC GESTALT INTERSTELLAR SCHOONER CALLED *THE MARVEL*.
I HAVE TRAVELLED ACROSS MILLIONS OF ALTERNATE DIMENSIONS AND AM NOW TRAPPED ON ONE OF THE PLANET EARTHS.
I HAVE WARRED AGAINST THESE HUMANS. I HAVE BEFRIENDED AND TRIED TO DEFEND THESE HUMANS...
BUT NOW I NEED TO KNOW...

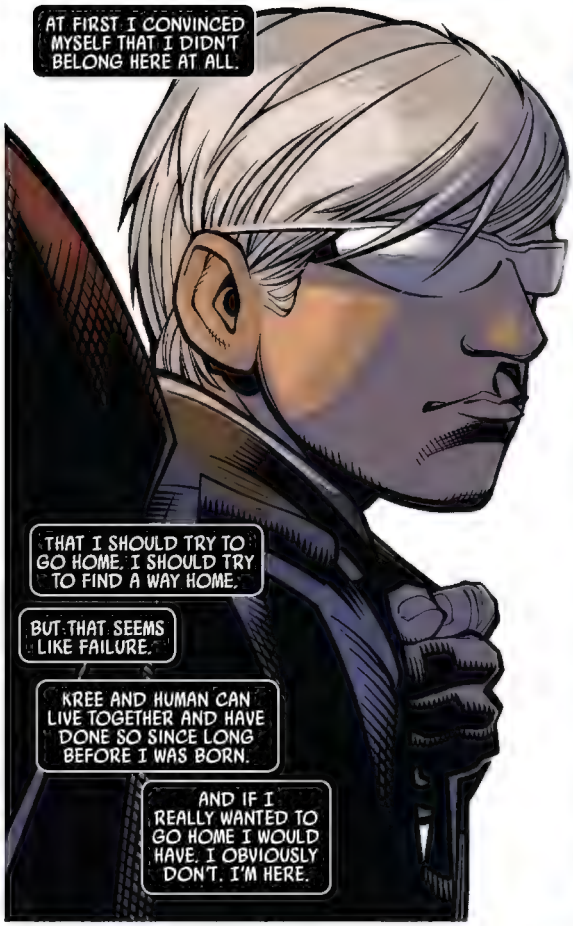
WHY AM I HERE?
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO BE DOING HERE?
WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?

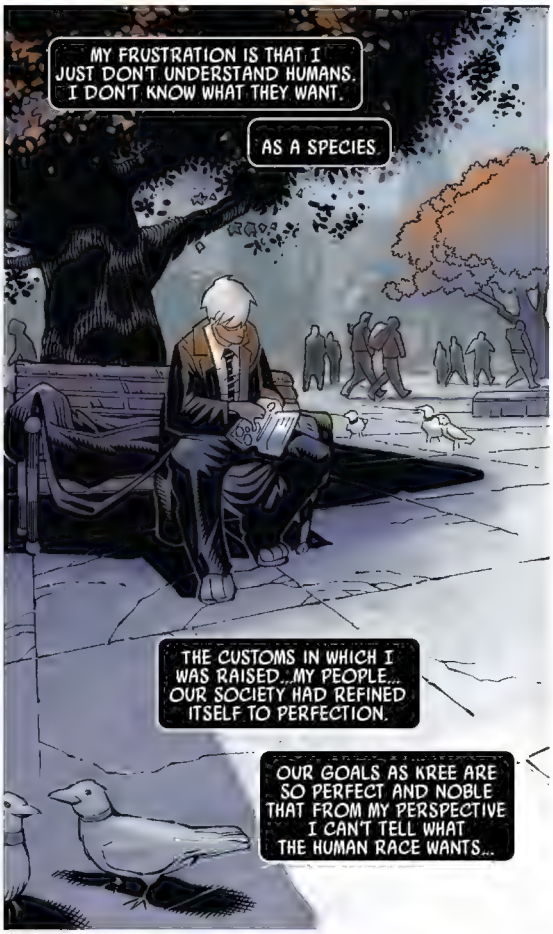
I NEED TO KNOW.
I NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU.
SO I HAVE NOW DEDICATED MY EVERY WAKING MOMENT TO COBBLING TOGETHER THE TECH I NEED TO TRY TO CONTACT YOU.
IT TAKES DAYS--SOMETIMES WEEKS--TO FIND THE NECESSARY COMPONENTS.
AND EVEN MORE DAYS AND WEEKS TO FUSE THOSE COMPONENTS INTO SOMETHING CLOSE TO KREE-COMPATIBLE.

ALL SO I CAN SEND YOU THIS MESSAGE. SO I CAN BEG FOR YOUR RESPONSE.
BUT EVERY TIME I DO, I KNOW THAT SOMEONE HERE ON EARTH KNOWS WHAT I HAVE DONE.

YOU CAN'T CONTACT DEEP SPACE WITHOUT SOMEONE ON EARTH NOTICING IT.

YOU CAN'T CALL OUT THIS FAR WITHOUT AROUSING SUSPICION.

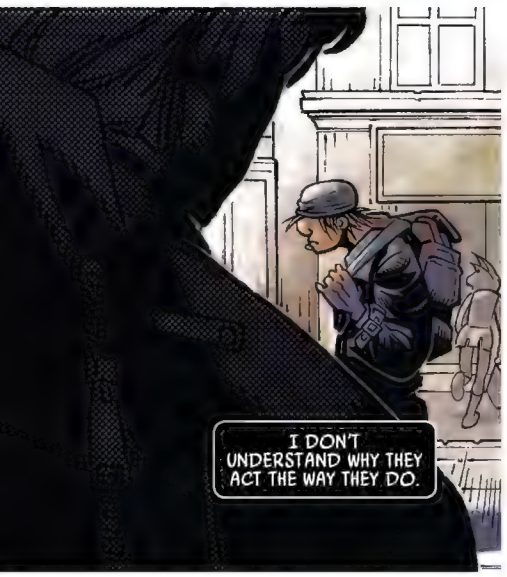

AT FIRST I CONVINCED MYSELF THAT I DIDN'T BELONG HERE AT ALL.
THAT I SHOULD TRY TO GO HOME. I SHOULD TRY TO FIND A WAY HOME.
BUT THAT SEEMS LIKE FAILURE.
KREE AND HUMAN CAN LIVE TOGETHER AND HAVE DONE SO SINCE LONG BEFORE I WAS BORN.
AND IF I REALLY WANTED TO GO HOME I WOULD HAVE. I OBVIOUSLY DON'T. I'M HERE.

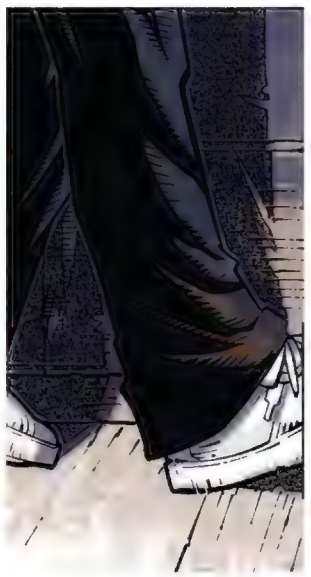

MY FRUSTRATION IS THAT I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND HUMANS. I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY WANT.
AS A SPECIES.
THE CUSTOMS IN WHICH I WAS RAISED...MY PEOPLE... OUR SOCIETY HAD REFINED ITSELF TO PERFECTION.
OUR GOALS AS KREE ARE SO PERFECT AND NOBLE THAT FROM MY PERSPECTIVE I CAN'T TELL WHAT THE HUMAN RACE WANTS...

DO THEY WANT LOVE? HATE? WAR? PEACE?
DO THEY WANT ALL OF THESE THINGS AT THE SAME TIME?
IT CAN'T BE DONE. YOU CAN'T HAVE CONTRARY DESIRES.
CAN YOU?
NO. YOU CAN'T. THEY SAY THEY WANT PEACE BUT THEY DON'T SEEM TO TRY TO ACCOMPLISH IT IN ANY WAY.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY WANT.
NO! NO, YOU DON'T GET TO HAVE ME AS A GIRLFRIEND OR A FRIEND!
STOP YELLING AT ME.
I'M YELLING AT YOU BECAUSE YOU DON'T HEAR ME IF I TALK LIKE A NORMAL PERSON!

ANNIE!
COME ON!


I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY THEY ACT THE WAY THEY DO.



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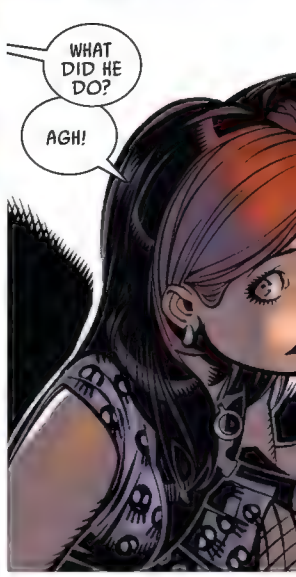
TWO YEARS OF MY LIFE...


WHAT DID HE DO?
AGH!

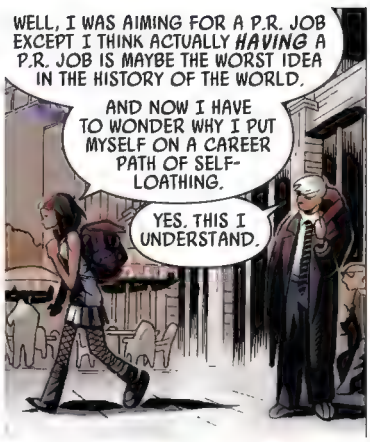
DID HE HURT YOU?
WHAT?
I HEARD--
YOU HEARD WHAT?
YOU WERE YELLING.

AND YOU THOUGHT YOU'D TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO HIT ON ME?
YOU THOUGHT THIS WAS THE IDEAL TIME TO STALK ME DOWN THE STREET AND HIT ON ME?
I WAS CURIOUS.
MY APOLOGIES.

NO. STOP.
I'M SORRY.
I'VE UPSET YOU.
NO. NO.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

WAIT--WHO ARE YOU? YOU LOOK FAMILIAR.
I BELIEVE I ASKED YOU FIRST.
WHO ARE YOU?

I'M ANNIE.
WHAT DO YOU DO, AN-NIE?
I--NO, IT'S ANNIE. I GO TO SCHOOL. HERE.
THIS IS A SCHOOL?
UH, YEAH, IT'S NYU.
IS IT SOMETHING ONE WOULD KNOW?
ARE YOU PLAYING AROUND?
I'M NEW TO THE AREA.
OKAY, WHO ARE YOU?
(BECAUSE I KNOW YOUR FACE.)



OKAY.
WHO ARE YOU?

MY NAME IS NOH.

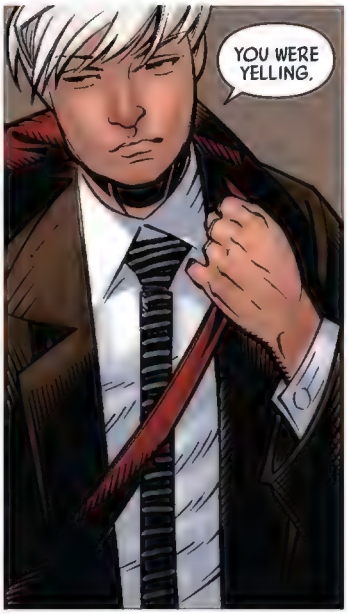
YOUR NAME IS NO? WHAT IS THAT? IS THAT FOREIGN?

YES. VERY MUCH SO.

YOU ARE SO ODD.

YES.

SO I WAS *THAT* LOUD?


YOU WERE YELLING.

THIS IS MY LIFE?
YELLING IN THE STREET??
WELL, LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING MISTER NO...

I'M REALLY EMBARRASSED.
I STILL AM.
YOU WERE ANGRY.
DID HE BETRAY YOU?

YES! YES, HE DID.
WHY DO PEOPLE DO THAT? I--I WOULD NEVER DO THAT!
IT SEEMS COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE.
YES. YES, IT'S EXACTLY THAT.

IT ALSO EVINCES A LACK OF CHARACTER.
YES.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND HUMAN SEXUALITY.

WHO ARE YOU?
I'M A TRAVELLER.

A NAME. A NAME OR WE'RE DONE WITH THIS.
WITH WHAT?
WITH CONVERSING. I DON'T TALK TO STRANGERS. NOT EVEN VAGUELY FAMILIAR STRANGERS.

MY NAME IS NOH-VARR AND I'M--
VARR IS YOUR LAST NAME?

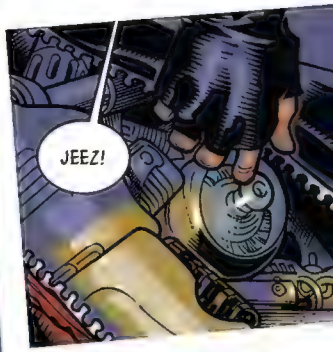
NO. MY NAME IS--
OH MY GOD...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
DON'T RUN.
DON'T.
AAAIIEEE!!!

TOOM TOOM TOOM
WHY DID YOU RUN AWAY?
NORMAN WANTS TO SPEAK WITH YOU.
FABOOM
HOLY--!
DUMB @#%$ LUCK.
THEN YOU'LL HATE THIS.
YOU'RE MAKING ME MAD.
THIS ALIEN STUFF OF YOURS... I DON'T GET IT AND I'M NOT A FAN.

HE TOLD ME DEAD OR ALIVE.

DON'T PUSH THE ISSUE.



WHY ARE YOU FIGHTING ME?
I AM DEFENDING MYSELF. YOU ATTACKED ME.
I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT YOU. I'M HERE TO TAKE YOU TO OSBORN.
I DON'T WANT TO GO TO OSBORN. I WANT NOTHING TO DO WITH HIM. THIS IS WHY I LEFT.
WHY? WHAT HAPPENED?
I FOUND OUT WHO YOU PEOPLE REALLY ARE.
WE'RE THE AVENGERS.
YOU'RE CRIMINALS AND SOME OF YOU ARE INSANE.
THAT'S NOT FAIR.
I DO NOT KNOW YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO OSBORN OR WHAT PROMISES HE MADE TO YOU...BUT HE LIED TO ME AND GOT ME ON HIS TEAM UNDER THE FALSEST OF PRETENSES.
HE USED MY IGNORANCE OF HUMAN CULTURE TO CONVINCE ME HE WAS A RIGHTEOUS MAN.
HE LIED TO ME AND I WANT NOTHING TO DO WITH HIM.
NOW I FOLLOW MY OWN PATH.
YOU AND HE CAN TALK IT OUT THEN.
NO. YOU'LL LET ME GO.
YOU'RE A PRETTY GOOD FIGHTER BUT I'VE GOT YOU NOW. YOU KNOW I DO. JUST BE SMART AND WE'LL BE AT THE--
WHICH ARE YOU?
WHAT?
CRIMINAL OR INSANE?
I'M NEITHER.
I THINK YOU MIGHT BE BOTH.
NOW YOU'RE JUST BEING MEAN.
YOU'RE BEING USED AND TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF. I'LL HELP YOU IF YOU'LL LET ME.
HELP ME?
I'M NOT EVEN SURE WHAT YOU ARE! AND I DON'T THINK YOU KNOW, EITHER.
YOU'RE TRYING TO UPSET ME, BUT IT WON'T--

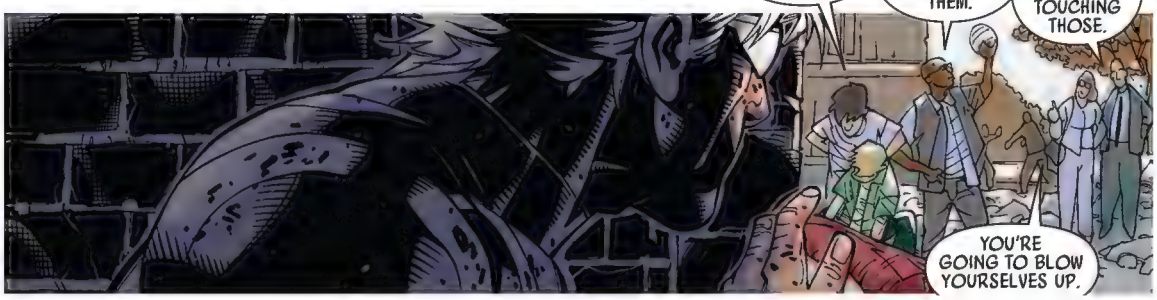
BOOM
AAGGH!!
WHOA! WHY'D YOU DO THAT?
I--I DON'T KNOW.
SCRATCH
UH-OH.

TOOM TOOM TOOM
HUH.
OKAY.

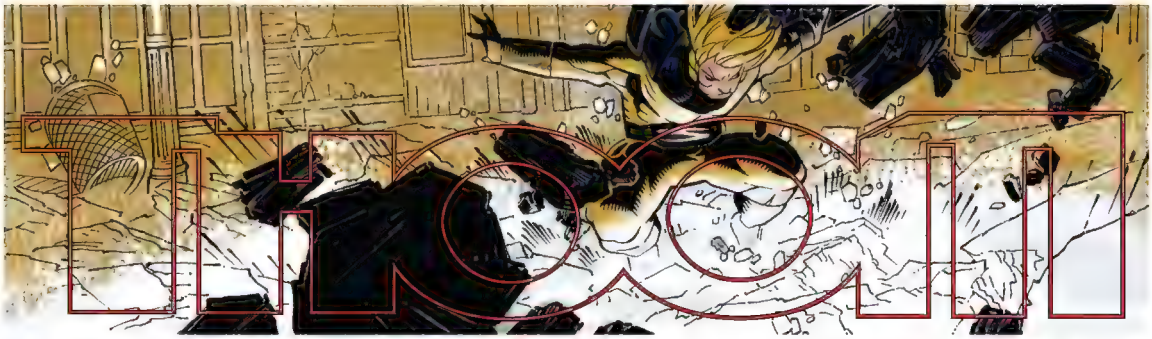
NYAA!!

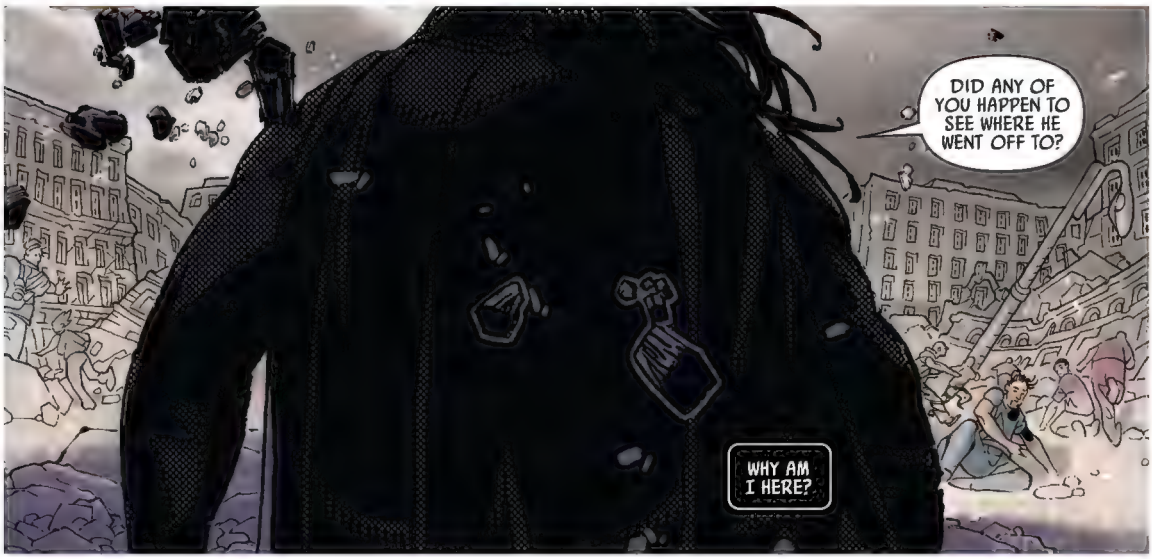
HOW'D YOU DO THAT?
OHMYGOD OHMYGOD
OHMYGOD OHMYGOD

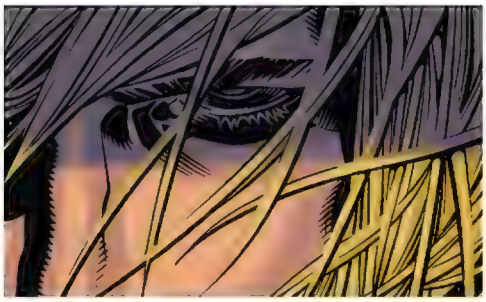
SUPREME INTELLIGENCE OF THE KREE EMPIRE.
MY NAME IS NOH-VARR...


OKAY, THIS IS THE MOST AMAZING THING I HAVE EVER SEEN.
CAN WE SELL THEM? WE SHOULD TOTALLY SELL THEM.
YOU SHOULDN'T EVEN BE TOUCHING THOSE.
YOU'RE GOING TO BLOW YOURSELVES UP.

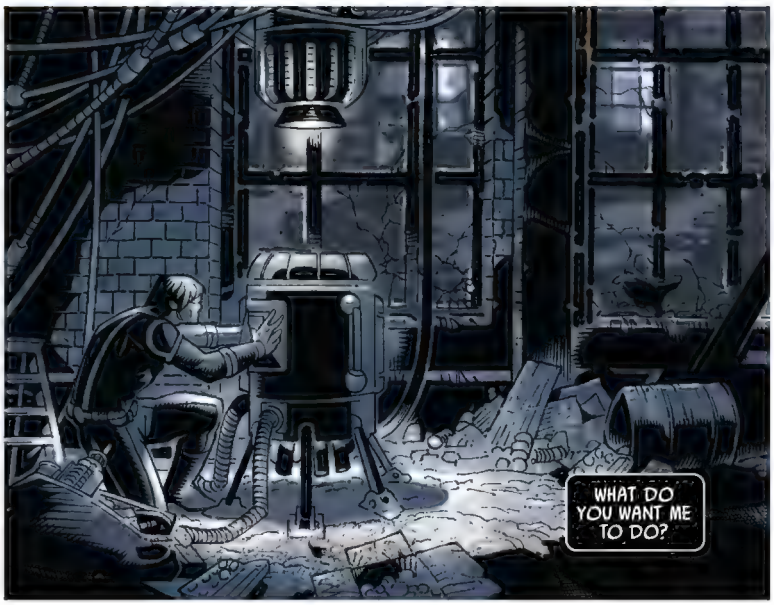
I WAS AN ENSIGN ABOARD THE 18TH KREE DIPLOMATIC GESTALT INTERSTELLAR SCHOONER CALLED *THE MARVEL*...
LADY, WHY DON'T YOU CRAWL BACK INTO THE--
OH, UH, HERE YOU GO.
I HAVE TRAVELLED ACROSS MILLIONS OF ALTERNATE DIMENSIONS AND AM NOW TRAPPED ON ONE OF THE PLANET EARTHS.
I HAVE WARRED AGAINST THESE HUMANS...I HAVE BEFRIENDED AND TRIED TO DEFEND THESE HUMANS...
BUT NOW I NEED TO KNOW...


FROST


DID ANY OF YOU HAPPEN TO SEE WHERE HE WENT OFF TO?
WHY AM I HERE?



WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO BE DOING HERE?


WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?

NOH-VARR, YOUR CALL HAS BEEN HEARD AND THE SUPREME INTELLIGENCE OF THE EMPIRE WILL NOW RESPOND.
THE UGLINESS OF THE SKRULL EMPIRE'S LAST GASPS AT RELEVANCE IN THE UNIVERSE HAVE PUT THE EARTH IN MORE JEOPARDY THAN EVER BEFORE.
YOUR ACTIONS DURING THEIR INVASION WERE HEROIC AND INSPIRING TO YOUR BROTHERS HERE ON THE KREE HOMEWORLD.
THE EARTH IS AND SHALL EVER BE PROTECTED BY THE EMPIRE...AND NOW IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT A NEW PROTECTOR IS NEEDED.
THE INTELLIGENCE HAS DECIDED THAT YOU, NOH-VARR, ARE TO BE THAT PROTECTOR.
YOU WILL STUDY UNDER THE LEADERS OF THE HUMAN RACE, LEARN FROM THEM, AND PROTECT THEIR INTERESTS.
YOU WILL KEEP THEM SAFE FROM THOSE WHO WOULD SEEK DESTRUCTION AND INVASION.
YOU WILL BE EARTH'S RUHI-TUGU. YOU WILL BE ITS PROTECTOR.

IT CAN'T BE--THIS IS NOT A TASK FOR JUST ME ALONE.
YOU ARE PART OF THE EMPIRE...THUS, YOU ARE NEVER ALONE.
BUT GREATER POWER AND ABILITY IS WHAT YOU REQUIRE...
LIKE MAR-VELL BEFORE YOU, AS EARTH'S PROTECTOR, YOU WILL BE GIVEN THE NEGA-BANDS.
BUT THESE BANDS ARE OF A DIFFERENT DESIGN AND DIFFERENT POWER SOURCE THAN THE ONES MAR-VELL WORE WITH CONTROVERSY AND HONOR.
THESE WERE CREATED ESPECIALLY FOR YOU.
THEY ARE FAR MORE ADVANCED AND FAR MORE PRECIOUS.
YOU WILL BE EMPOWERED TO ACT AND YOU WILL HAVE THE POWER TO ACT.
AAGGHH!
KNOW THAT THE EMPIRE IS WATCHING YOU.

KNOW THAT YOU ARE NO LONGER ALONE IN THE UNIVERSE.

I WANT EVERYONE IN THE AREA QUESTIONED AND--

@#$% HIM, OSBORN, YOU WANT TO GO CHASING *THIS* GUY?

IF HE STICKS HIS NOSE OUT, SURE, WE'LL CUT IT OFF. BUT WHY WASTE ONE--

REALLY, I SHOULD LET THE **ONE** ALIEN UNDER **MY** SUPERVISION RUN AROUND UNSUPERVISED?

ALL RIGHT.

DO YOU REMEMBER **HOW** I EVEN GOT INTO POWER?

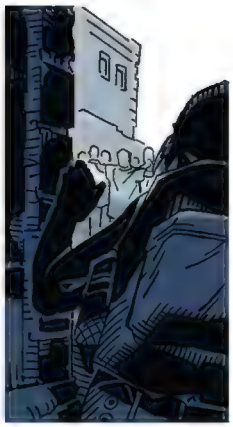
I GOT INTO POWER WITH A PROMISE OF PROTECTING THE WORLD FROM THREATS IT CAN'T PROTECT ITSELF FROM.

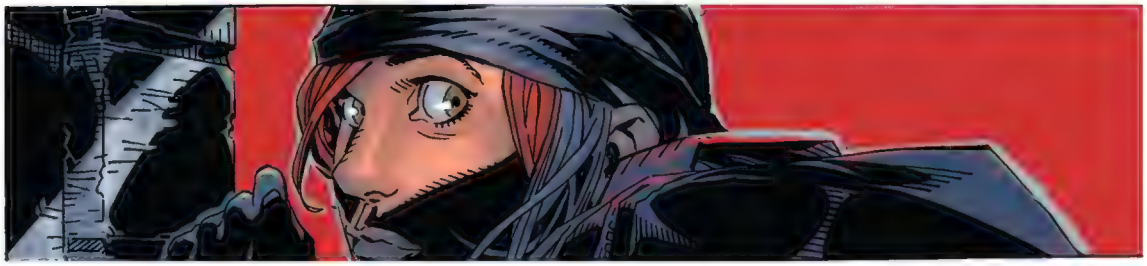
OKAY.

ALIEN THREATS WERE THE--

IT'S LIKE YOU'RE INSANE.
WHAT?
AND WORSE YET, IT'S LIKE YOU DON'T KNOW YOU'RE INSANE.
I CAN'T EXPRESS AN OBSERVATION?

ABOUT NORMAN OSBORN IN FRONT OF NORMAN OSBORN?
FREE COUNTRY.
YEAH, SURE, RIGHT.





NO! NO, YOU HAVE TO RUN. THEY'RE HERE. THEY'LL FIND YOU.
NO. THEY WON'T.
THEY DID BEFORE.

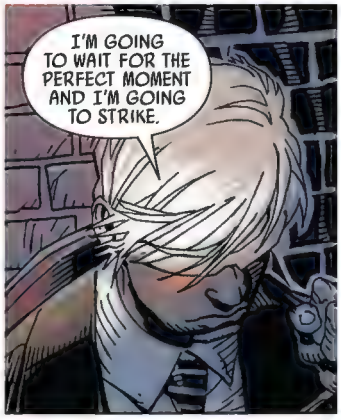
I'M DIFFERENT NOW.
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
I'M STILL LEARNING THAT.
I'LL TELL YOU WHEN I HAVE IT WORKED OUT BETTER.

BUT I CAME HERE TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE FOR YOUR SELFLESSNESS.
YEAH, WELL, THAT WAS *THE* CRAZIEST THING I HAVE EVER DONE IN MY *LIFE*.
AND I THANK YOU.

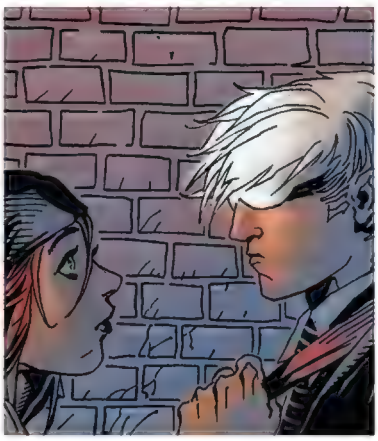
WHY ARE THEY AFTER YOU?
BECAUSE I KNOW THE TRUTH.

ABOUT NORMAN OSBORN.
YES.
THAT OSBORN IS A @#$%?
YES.

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO *DO?*


I'M GOING TO WAIT FOR THE PERFECT MOMENT AND I'M GOING TO STRIKE.

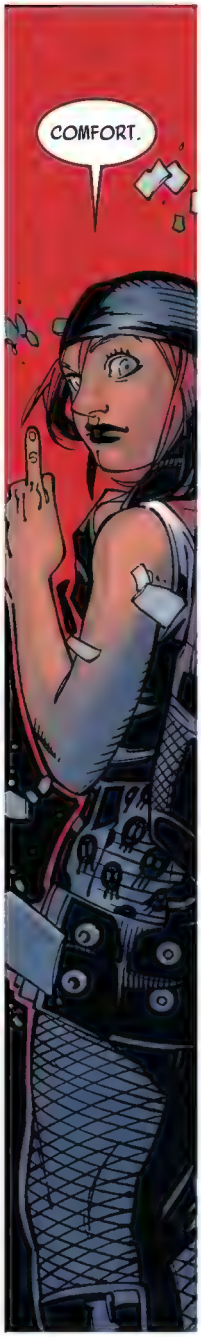
OKAY. OKAY, WELL...UM...
WHEN YOU'RE DONE...
COME FIND ME AGAIN?

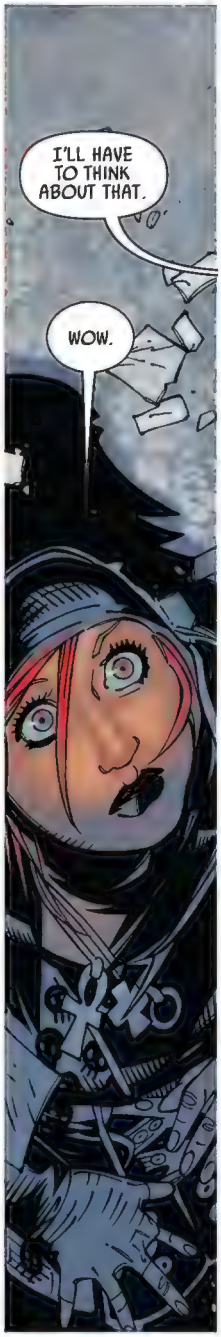


FOR COMPANIONSHIP.

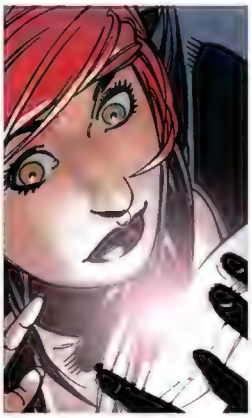
I SEE...
I'M HERE TO PROTECT... EVERYONE.
TO GUIDE THEM TOWARDS WHAT THEY WANT.
WOW. WELL, THAT'S--
BUT...I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY WANT.

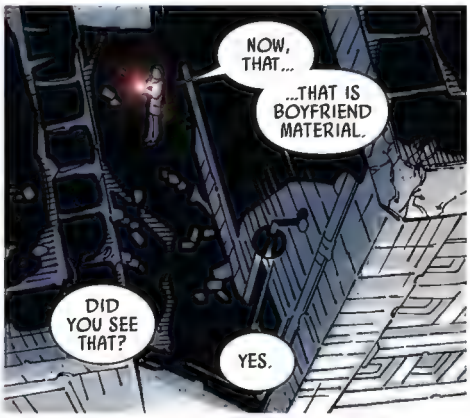
PEACE, LOVE AND UNDERSTANDING.
NO. I DON'T THINK THAT'S TRUE.
HMM. MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT.


COMFORT.


I'LL HAVE TO THINK ABOUT THAT.
WOW.

I WILL SEE YOU AGAIN.




NOW, THAT...
...THAT IS BOYFRIEND MATERIAL.
DID YOU SEE THAT?
YES.

SEEMS HE HAS MORE POWER THAN THE INTEL INTIMATED.
MIGHT BE A *NEW* POWER SET.
MIGHT BE OSBORN'S DOING.
EITHER WAY IT BACKFIRED ON HIM.
GOOD.
I DON'T KNOW. HE'S A BIG UNKNOWN.
HE'S FIRE-POWER AND HE'S ON OUR SIDE.
MAYBE. MAYBE HE'S ON OUR SIDE.

STEVE, IF HE'S NOT ON OSBORN'S SIDE, HE'S ON OUR SIDE.

DARK AVENGERS #13

CIRCA 1600 BCE.
THE LORD SPOKE TO ME AND HE SAID: I WILL BRING ONE MORE PLAGUE ON PHARAOH AND ON EGYPT.

HE SAID: YOU MUST GO AND MARK WITH LAMB'S BLOOD THE DOORPOSTS OF EVERY HEBREW DOOR.
THEN AND ONLY THEN WILL THE LORD KNOW THIS IS A HEBREW HOUSE. HE WILL THEN KNOW TO PASS OVER IT.

AND HE WILL THEN SPARE ALL THE ISRAELITE FIRSTBORN.
WHILE EVERY FIRSTBORN SON IN EGYPT WILL DIE.
FROM THE FIRSTBORN SON OF PHARAOH, TO THE FIRSTBORN SON OF THE SLAVE.

THEN YOU WILL KNOW...

...THERE IS ONLY ONE TRUE GOD.

TWO MONTHS AGO.
BECAUSE NO ONE HAS UNDERSTOOD YOU LIKE I DO.
BELIEVE ME, ROBERT, THIS ROAD WE'RE ON, IT'S A TOUGH ONE, BUT WHEN IT WORKS...
WHEN THOSE MOMENTS HAPPEN...
IT'S ALL WORTH IT.

VICTORIA, THIS IS OSBORN. I WANT YOU TO SEND SOMEONE OUT TO 5 GUYS BURGERS AND FRIES.
ORDER FOR EVERYONE: CHEESEBURGERS, SHAKES, FRIES, BACON BURGERS, ONION RINGS...
ORDER EVERYTHING THEY'VE GOT. LET ME KNOW WHEN IT'S HERE.
WHAT? NO, I'M NOT JOKING.

5 GUYS BURGERS.
YOU'RE GOING TO FAINT FROM HAPPINESS.
THANK YOU. FOR THIS.

NO WORRIES.
LISTEN, I HAVE SOMETHING ELSE FOR YOU.
SOMETHING I THINK WILL MAKE YOU VERY HAPPY.

AS I SAID, YOUR FILE WAS VERY THOROUGH, AND BEFORE I CAME TO VISIT YOU I WENT THROUGH ALL THE FILES...
OF THE MAN YOU CALLED "THE PROFESSOR."

IS THAT-- IS THAT--?
I WANT YOU TO KNOW, BEFORE HE DIED, HE CAME TO REALIZE THAT YOU WERE HIS GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT.
YOU ARE A ONE-OF-A-KIND SCIENTIFIC MIRACLE.
IS THIS THE SERUM? IS THIS IT?
IT IS.
IS IT FOR ME?
IT IS, AND YOU KNOW WHY IT'S JUST FOR YOU? BECAUSE IT DOESN'T WORK ON ANYONE ELSE IN THE ENTIRE WORLD.
JUST YOU.
YOU'RE LIKE CAPTAIN AMERICA, THAT WAY.
OH MY GOD.
AND I CAN MAKE AS MUCH AS YOU WANT.
I HAVE MEN, TOP MEN, WORKING TO MAKE SURE I HAVE IT FOR YOU.
I SET UP A SUPER-SECRET LABORATORY, STATE OF THE ART, TO KEEP MY GOLDEN AVENGER HAPPY.
TONY STARK COULD HAVE DONE THIS FOR YOU. EASILY. HE WAS WRONG NOT TO.
YES.
GO.

MMMAAGGH!!
GARR!
OH MY.
EVERYTHING... ALL RIGHT?
I REALLY NEEDED THAT.
YOU WANT TO SIT DOWN?
NO.
NO...
MISTER OSBORN, I CLEARLY--MMM!
I OWE YOU ONE.
WHAT?
YES, YOU DO. AND YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MAKES YOU?
MY SECRET WEAPON.

THREE DAYS AGO.
AVENGERS TOWER, NEW YORK CITY.
LINDY, WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?
OH LORD.
IDID ITIDIDIT IDIDIT.
I'M FREE. I-I DID IT.
IT'S OVER.
MASTER REYNOLDS HAS EXPIRED.
ARE--OH MY--ARE YOU RECORDING THIS, CLOC?
YES.
IT IS PART OF MY PROGRAMMED FUNCTION.
I WANT--I WANT PEOPLE TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED HERE.
THEN I WANT YOU--YES, I WANT YOU TO KEEP RECORDING.
I WANT PEOPLE TO KNOW--DO YOU KNOW--DO YOU KNOW HOW HE BECAME THE SENTRY?
ROBBIE DISCOVERED THE PROFESSOR'S SECRET FORMULA.
GOSH--THIS MUST BE THE PROFESSOR'S SECRET FORMULA.
NO!
NOT THAT CRAP HE SOLD TO THE PUBLIC!
THE REAL STORY!

"DO YOU KNOW HOW HE EVEN ENDED UP IN THAT LAB IN THE FIRST PLACE? DO YOU KNOW HOW?

"HE BROKE IN THERE LOOKING FOR DRUGS. LOOKING FOR--FOR--FOR METH WORKS.

"HE WAS AN ADDICT.

"HE WAS A JUNKIE.

"AND GUESS WHAT? AS ONLY A JUNKIE CAN, HE FELL ASS-BACKWARDS INTO ACCIDENTALLY DISCOVERING HIS ULTIMATE DRUG.

"THE ULTIMATE HIGH.

"HE FOUND WHAT HE CALLED A--A SERUM.

DO NOT TOUCH

"BUT HE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT IT WAS.

SMASH

WHOA.

WHAT IS IT?

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

I WANT SOME.

"AN UNTESTED SOMETHING THAT EVENTUALLY TURNED HIM INTO THIS--WHAT?
"DO WE KNOW? DOES HE EVEN KNOW?
"WHAT DID HE TURN INTO? WHAT EXACTLY IS THE POWER OF A THOUSAND EXPLODING SUNS?
"WHAT IS THE SENTRY?
DUDE!

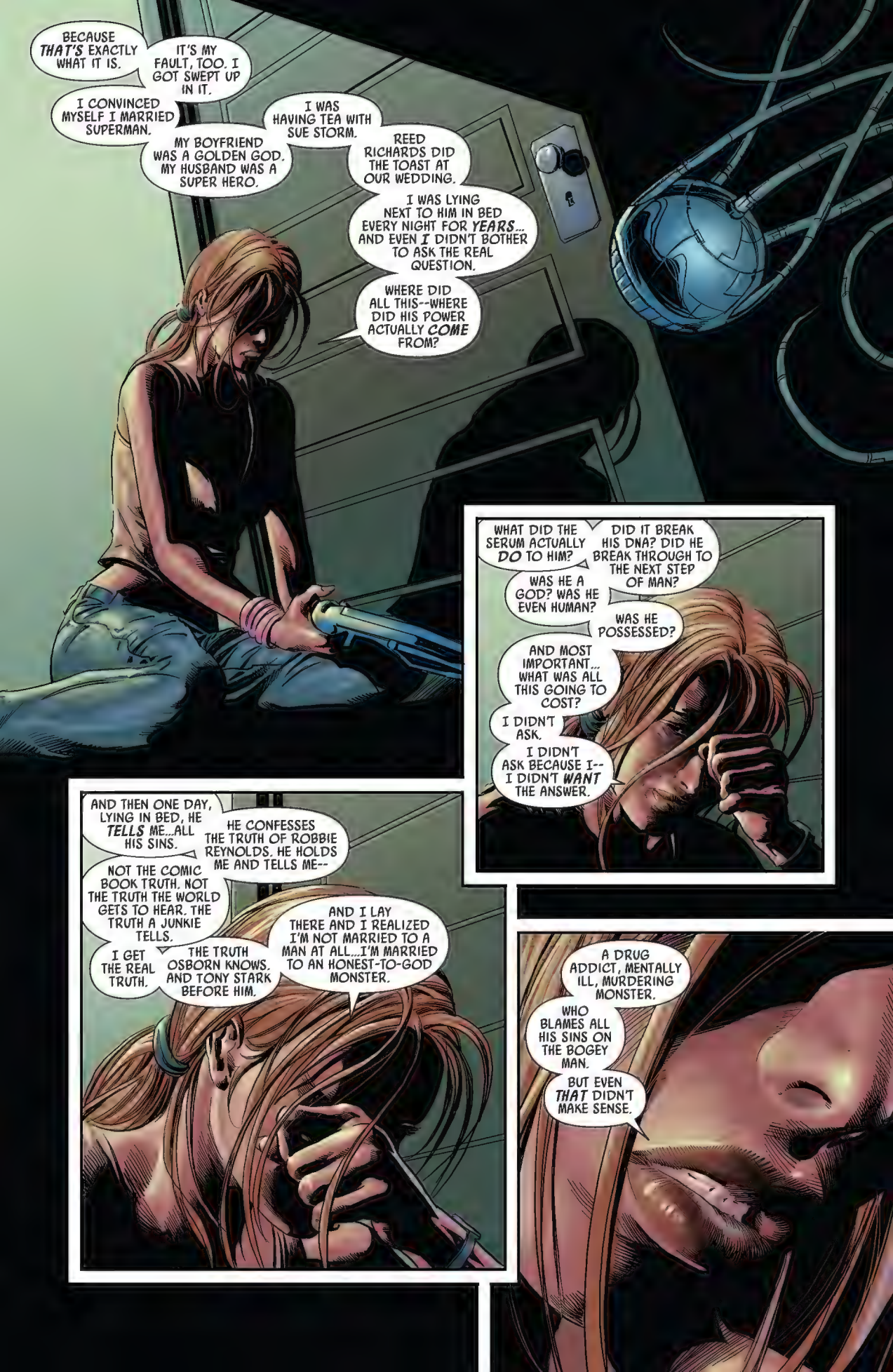
DUDE?!
AAGGH!!
SMASSH

NGGAA!

HANDS IN THE AIR!
WE HAVE A BREAK-IN!
BUILDING NINE. TH-THE LAB. OVER?
IN THE AIR!
OH, MAN!

"AND YOU KNOW WHAT?
"YOU KNOW THE REAL BIG SECRET OF THE SENTRY?

OH, MY.
OH, MY OH, MY OH, MY.
"HE DIDN'T JUST TAKE THAT SERUM ONCE.
"ONCE WAS AN ACCIDENT. ONCE WAS A STUPID KID DOING A STUPID THING.
POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS
WAS THIS YOUR LAB, SIR?
YES--YES. MY LIFE'S WORK.
BUT IT'S ALL--IT'S ALL...
CAN YOU FIX IT?
I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO, WON'T I?
"HIS SECRET IS: ONCE HE GOT A TASTE OF IT--OF THE POWER--HE DID WHAT EVERY JUNKIE DOES.
YOU CAN MAKE MORE?
"HE DID WHATEVER HE COULD TO GET WHATEVER HE NEEDED.
"DOES THAT *SOUND* LIKE THE ORIGIN OF A GOLDEN SUPER HERO TO YOU?
"NO? THEN WHAT *DOES* IT SOUND LIKE THE ORIGIN OF?
"THEN WHAT DOES IT SOUND LIKE?"


BECAUSE THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT IT IS.
IT'S MY FAULT, TOO. I GOT SWEPT UP IN IT.
I CONVINCED MYSELF I MARRIED SUPERMAN.
MY BOYFRIEND WAS A GOLDEN GOD. MY HUSBAND WAS A SUPER HERO.
I WAS HAVING TEA WITH SUE STORM.
REED RICHARDS DID THE TOAST AT OUR WEDDING.
I WAS LYING NEXT TO HIM IN BED EVERY NIGHT FOR YEARS... AND EVEN I DIDN'T BOTHER TO ASK THE REAL QUESTION.
WHERE DID ALL THIS--WHERE DID HIS POWER ACTUALLY COME FROM?
WHAT DID THE SERUM ACTUALLY DO TO HIM?
DID IT BREAK HIS DNA? DID HE BREAK THROUGH TO THE NEXT STEP OF MAN?
WAS HE A GOD? WAS HE EVEN HUMAN?
WAS HE POSSESSED?
AND MOST IMPORTANT... WHAT WAS ALL THIS GOING TO COST?
I DIDN'T ASK.
I DIDN'T ASK BECAUSE I-- I DIDN'T WANT THE ANSWER.
AND THEN ONE DAY, LYING IN BED, HE TELLS ME...ALL HIS SINS.
HE CONFESSES THE TRUTH OF ROBBIE REYNOLDS. HE HOLDS ME AND TELLS ME--
NOT THE COMIC BOOK TRUTH, NOT THE TRUTH THE WORLD GETS TO HEAR. THE TRUTH A JUNKIE TELLS.
I GET THE REAL TRUTH.
THE TRUTH OSBORN KNOWS. AND TONY STARK BEFORE HIM.
AND I LAY THERE AND I REALIZED I'M NOT MARRIED TO A MAN AT ALL...I'M MARRIED TO AN HONEST-TO-GOD MONSTER.
A DRUG ADDICT, MENTALLY ILL, MURDERING MONSTER.
WHO BLAMES ALL HIS SINS ON THE BOGEY MAN.
BUT EVEN THAT DIDN'T MAKE SENSE.

"HE DRESSED THE PART. HE LOOKED THE PART.
"BUT I REALIZED THAT I'VE MET TRUE HEROES, I'VE SEEN THEM UP CLOSE...
"I'VE SEEN WHAT KIND OF SPECIAL MAN IT TAKES TO STAND FOR SOMETHING LARGER THAN HIMSELF.
"I'VE SEEN WHAT KIND OF SPECIAL MAN IT TAKES TO WIELD POWER, TO CONTROL IT, TO NOT LET IT CONTROL YOU.
"IT TAKES A SPECIAL MAN OF INTEGRITY AND SPIRIT.
"A 'ONE IN A MILLION' MAN.
"AND MAYBE YOU CAN BLAME BOB FOR NOT BEING THAT MAN, AND MAYBE THAT'S JUST NOT FAIR--BUT HE NEVER WAS.
"HE WAS NEVER CAPTAIN AMERICA. ONLY CAPTAIN AMERICA IS, REALLY.
"THAT'S WHAT MAKES HIM CAPTAIN AMERICA.
"BOB WAS NOT AND NEVER WOULD BE THAT GUY. HE WASN'T WIRED THAT WAY. HE WAS SOMETHING ELSE.
"BUT THEN I REALIZED THAT--THAT AN ADDICT IS AN ADDICT.
"INSTEAD OF DRUGS... IT BECAME ABOUT POWER. HE WAS ADDICTED TO THE SENTRY.
"AND HE HAD JUST AS MUCH CONTROL OVER THAT AS HE DID THE OTHER.
"SO THAT ANSWERS THE QUESTION, RIGHT? WHO IS THE SENTRY? WHO IS THE VOID?
"IT'S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T DESERVE THE POWER GETS THE POWER."

AND IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, IT'S AMAZING THAT IT HASN'T HAPPENED MORE OFTEN.
I HAVE A THEORY.
I THINK BOB, WHEN HE DRANK THAT DRUG, ACCIDENTALLY OPENED UP... SOMETHING.
HE BECAME A PART OF SOMETHING LARGER AND CRAZIER THAN ANYONE HAS EVEN CONSIDERED.
"I THINK HIS ENERGY CAME FROM SOMETHING OF--OF MAYBE BIBLICAL PROPORTIONS.
"MOSES, JESUS, WHAT WAS THEIR POWER? WHERE DID IT COME FROM? HOW DID THEY GET IT? REALLY?
"GOD? BUT STILL, HOW? WHAT WOULD POWERFUL PEOPLE LIKE *THAT* LOOK LIKE *TODAY?*
"I KNOW. IT'S SACRILEGE. CRAZY. I KNOW. AND I HAVE NO PROOF."
JUST SUNDAY SCHOOL.
THAT'S WHY I NEVER SAID ANYTHING TO ANYONE.
BUT THOSE MEN HAD POWER AND IT DESTROYED THEM.
"THEY WERE SACRIFICED.
"*WHAT'S* THE DIFFERENCE, EXACTLY?"
NOOOOO...
I'VE GOT YOU, LINDY.
IT'S... OKAY.
I SHOULD HAVE KILLED HIM ON OUR WEDDING NIGHT.
OBVIOUSLY, IT HURTS TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT.

IT MAKES ME FEEL LIKE I'VE PUT MORE INTO THIS MARRIAGE THAN YOU WERE EVER GOING TO.
OH GOD!
OH GOD!
WHAT ARE YOU??!!
I AM GALACTUS... DEVOURER OF WORLDS.
NOOO...
OH, LINDY, NO.

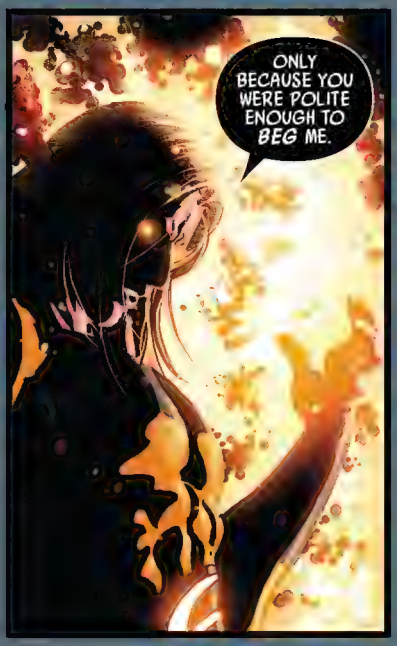
SKRAKSSH
AAIIEE!!

LINDY, YOU'RE NOT TAKING THE EASY WAY OUT OF THIS MARRIAGE.
I WANT SOME MORE OF THESE THEORIES OF YOURS. THEY'RE HILARIOUS.

PLEASE, PLEASE LET ME GO!
PLEASE!
YOU WANT OUT OF THIS? YOU REALLY WANT TO GET AWAY FROM ME? IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT?
PLEASE.
YOU'RE ONLY STILL HERE BECAUSE HE LOVES YOU.
AND HE DOES.

AND YOU'VE DONE NOTHING BUT BETRAY HIM!
HE TOLD YOU HIS DEEPEST, DARKEST SECRETS.
YOU SEE ME AS THE ENEMY. YOU'RE THE ENEMY!
YOU'RE THE BETRAYER.
YOU MADE A PROMISE, LINDY. YOU'RE A LIAR.

PLEASE JUST LET ME GO.
JUST KILL ME.

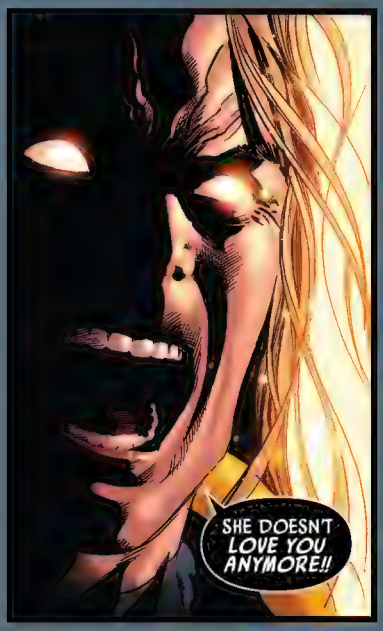

ONLY BECAUSE YOU WERE POLITE ENOUGH TO BEG ME.

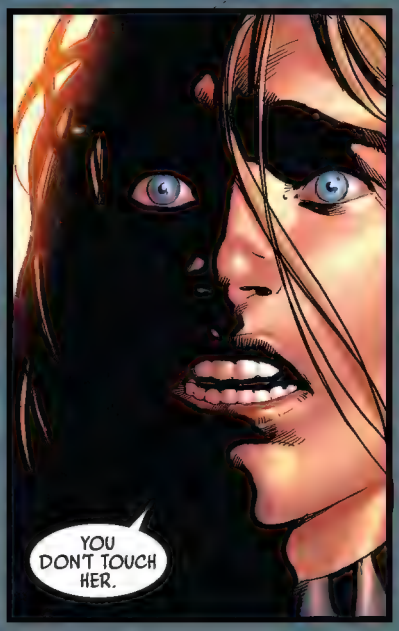
NO! YOU PROMISED.
WE HAD A DEAL!
NOT HER!
YOU DON'T TOUCH HER.

THAT WAS THEN.
SHE ASKED ME TO. SHE FLAT OUT BEGGED--

NO!
YOU DON'T TOUCH HER.

I THINK WE CAN ALL AGREE AT THIS POINT THAT YOUR LIFE WILL BE MUCH EASIER WITHOUT HER.
NO!
SHE'S ONLY MADE IT MORE COMPLICATED.
NO!


SHE DOESN'T LOVE YOU ANYMORE!!


YOU DON'T TOUCH HER.

AS ALWAYS...
YOU WILL THANK ME LATER.

NO!
NOW YOU SEE...
...HOW MUCH HE LOVES YOU.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, ROBERT?
YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T RUN FROM ME.
YOU'VE TRIED THAT BEFORE.

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING TO ACCOMPLISH?

YOU TRIED TO MAKE THE WORLD FORGET WE EXISTED... *THAT* DIDN'T WORK.

YOU TRIED TO PRETEND I DIDN'T EXIST. HOPING *WHAT?* THAT I'D *GO AWAY?*

YOU TRIED TO KILL ME. NOTHING.

YOU FLEW ALL THE WAY TO ANOTHER PLANET...THAT DIDN'T WORK.

AND NOW *THIS?*

YOU'VE TRIED THIS, RIGHT?

BOB?
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
ROBERT?

ROBERT. OH, NO. NO NO NO.
YOU'D KILL YOURSELF TO GET RID OF ME?
THIS IS THE ACT OF A COWARD.
YOU'RE ONLY PROVING HER POINT.
YOU WANT TO BE A HERO? THIS IS HARDLY WHAT HEROES DO. THIS IS WHAT COWARDS DO.
BUT THAT'S OKAY. I'M NOT JUDGING YOU. I'M JUST TELLING YOU WHAT YOU ALREADY KNOW.
SO YOU'RE NOT A HERO. YOU'RE ME.
YOU'RE A FORCE. LINDY WAS RIGHT. YOU'RE PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER THAN BOTH OF US.
YOU ARE GOD.
AND ROBERT, I HATE TO BE THE ONE TO TELL THIS TO YOU, ESPECIALLY NOW, SINCE YOU WENT TO ALL THIS TROUBLE...
BUT THIS ISN'T GOING TO WORK.
YOU DON'T WANT IT ENOUGH.
YOU'RE JUST PUNISHING YOURSELF TO PUNISH YOURSELF.
NOW, WHAT YOU SHOULD BE DOING IS LISTENING TO THAT MOP OF A WIFE OF YOURS.
SHE WAS MAKING SENSE.

YOU'RE ANGRY BECAUSE SHE WAS RIGHT. YOU'RE NOT A HERO.
YOU'RE NOT.
IT'S NICE THAT YOU WANT TO BE, BUT YOU'RE NOT.
WHO WOULDN'T WANT TO BE A SUPER HERO? OR A DRUMMER OR PRESIDENT?
YOU'RE NOT.

YOU'RE ME. AND INSTEAD OF FIGHTING ME (WITH NO RESULT...)
YOU SHOULD JUST TAKE A STEP BACK AND LOOK AT WHAT YOU'VE ACCOMPLISHED AS THE SENTRY.
NOTHING.

NOTHING HAS HAPPENED.
YOU'VE MADE A MESS OUT OF EVERYTHING YOU'VE COME NEAR.
YOU HIDE, YOU MOPE. YOU RUN.
AND ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS JUST SIT BACK AND LET ME DO WHAT I DO.

YOU WANT TO DO SOMETHING? YOU WANT TO HAVE AN IMPACT?
ALLOW ME.
I'VE DONE IT BEFORE.
AND SOMETHING GOOD ALWAYS CAME OUT OF IT IN THE LONG RUN.
YES, SURE.
IT'S A MESSY THING.

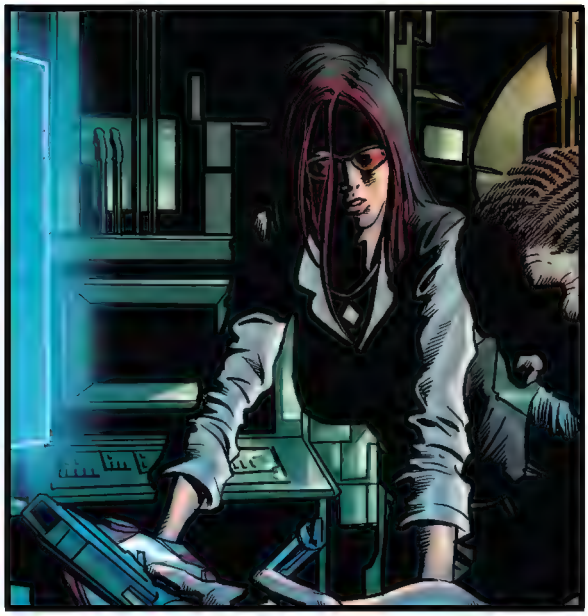
IT'S GOD'S WAY.

DARK AVENGERS #14

H.A.M.M.E.R. HELICARRIER.
HOVERING OVER AVENGERS TOWER, NEW YORK CITY. THREE DAYS AGO.
SIR--
I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR YOU TODAY, MISS HAND.
WELL, DIRECTOR OSBORN, YOU HAVE A COUPLE OF OPTIONS...
YOU CAN HAVE TEN MINUTES FOR ME RIGHT NOW OR YOU CAN HAVE THE HOURS, DAYS OR MAYBE WEEKS IT WILL TAKE TO PROPERLY REPLACE ME AS YOUR SECOND IN COMMAND.
BECAUSE IF YOU DON'T LISTEN TO ME--
MISS HAND... THESE DRAMATIC STANDS OF YOURS...
YOU HIRED ME, FIRST DAY, YOU HIRED ME TO TELL YOU HOW IT IS.
YOU SAID IT'S WHY YOU HIRED ME.
YES, BUT--
SO THIS IS HOW IT IS: YOU AND YOUR AVENGERS ARE FALLING APART.
THAT'S--
AS I SAID BEFORE--YOU'VE BEEN BURNING THE CANDLE AT BOTH ENDS AND THE MIDDLE SINCE YOU CREATED H.A.M.M.E.R. AND, SIR, YOU HAVE A CHECKERED HISTORY, AT BEST, AT DEALING WITH HIGH STRESS SITUATIONS FOR LENGTHY PERIODS OF TIME.
AND I'M JUST TALKING ABOUT YOU.
I'M NOT EVEN TALKING ABOUT THE REST OF YOUR DYSFUNCTIONAL TEAM YET.
THE WORLD DOESN'T STOP TURNING.
THE JOB...IS ALL-CONSUMING.
YOU ARE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT.
PICK ONE.
NAMES OF ADVANCED PSYCHOTHERAPISTS.
WHAT ARE THESE?
YOU TOLD ME TO FIND ONE--
MISS HAND--
--WHO SPECIALIZES IN HIGH STRESS--
NO.
FULL CONFIDENTIALITY.
NO.
NICK FURY DID IT.
NO.
TONY STARK DID IT.
AND LOOK WHERE THEY ARE NOW!!

YOU WILL HAVE TO LEARN THAT NO MEANS NO!
AND YOU'LL HAVE TO LEARN THAT MY FATHER YELLED A LOT LOUDER THAN YOU CAN! SO YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO DO A LOT BETTER THAN THAT TO SHUT ME UP!
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO STEAM-ROLL OVER ME BY SHEER FORCE OF WILL.
YOU HIRED ME TO DO EXACTLY THIS AND I AM DOING IT, NOT ONLY FOR YOU BUT FOR THE GOOD OF THE COUNTRY THAT YOU SWORE TO PROTECT.
AND YOU KNOW THAT'S WHY I'M HERE AND WHY YOU WANT ME HERE SO CUT THE @#$@ AND LISTEN TO WHAT I HAVE TO SAY.
THIS JOB IS ALL-CONSUMING, AND FOR THAT YOU NEED COUNSEL.
PROFESSIONAL COUNSEL.
YOU NEED TO WORK ON YOURSELF AND YOUR STRESS LEVELS.
YOU NEED SOMEONE TO KEEP AN EYE ON YOU.
PICK A NAME!
I'LL TRUST YOUR JUDGEMENT.
AND YOU'LL KEEP THE APPOINTMENT FOR--
YES, THAT--
YOU UNDERSTAND I DO THIS OUT OF--
YES.
SIR, IF I MAY, YOU HAVE THIS TENDENCY, AS MOST "TYPE A" PEOPLE DO, TO FINISH MY SENTENCES FOR ME OR ANSWER ME BEFORE I'VE FINISHED SPEAKING...
SO SURE ARE YOU THAT YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHAT IT IS I WAS GOING TO SAY.
YOU WERE GOING TO SAY YOU DO THIS OUT OF RESPECT FOR ME AND MY--
NO, I WAS GOING TO SAY I AM TERRIFIED THAT YOU WILL SNAP AND BECOME THE GREEN GOBLIN.

AND THAT YOU MAY HAVE BEEN SLIPPING IN AND OUT OF IT WITHOUT EVEN REALIZING IT.
OR EVEN SCARIER THAN THAT...
YOU MAY BE PUSHING YOURSELF THIS HARD AS AN EXCUSE TO DO SO.



I DON'T WANT THAT.
I WANT NORMAN OSBORN TO LEAD.
I WANT YOU TO LEAD OUR COUNTRY INTO A PLACE WHERE AMERICANS CAN LIVE PEACEFUL, FEARLESS LIVES OF COMFORT.
I THINK YOU HAVE THE CAPACITY FOR GREATNESS.
YOU'VE ALREADY DONE SUCH AMAZING THINGS.

BUT YOU'VE ALSO PUT YOURSELF AND YOUR MIND IN TERRIBLY COMPROMISING POSITIONS.
YOU AND YOUR TEAM WENT THROUGH A TERRIBLE TRAUMA WITH THE MOLECULE MAN...
AND YES, WE WON THE DAY...
BUT AT WHAT COST?

SEE...RIGHT NOW MOONSTONE AND BULLSEYE--
EXCUSE ME, YOUR MS. MARVEL AND HAWKEYE, ARE ENGAGING IN INAPPROPRIATE ACTS.
RIGHT NOW?
RIGHT NOW.
HOW DO YOU KNOW THIS?

BECAUSE I CAN SEE.
IS--IS THAT THE SECURITY CAMERA IN THEIR BEDROOMS?
SIR, THAT'S THE AVENGERS TOWER MEETING ROOM.

YES. AND THAT IS HAPPENING IN FRONT OF ASSIGNED H.A.M.M.E.R. AGENTS.
AND BELIEVE IT OR NOT, THAT IS NOT WHAT IT SEEMS.
THAT, SIR, IS AN ACT OF AGGRESSION TOWARDS YOU.
MOONSTONE IS WORKING HER WAY THROUGH YOUR TEAM.
ACTING OUT. WHY?

TO GET TO YOU.
MAYBE.
SHE ALREADY SCARED OFF NOH-VARR.
WE'LL GET HIM BACK.
AND NOW THIS.
THIS IS ABOUT UNCHECKED AGGRESSION.

FIRST YOU PUT THESE SELFISH, DANGEROUS PEOPLE IN THE SAME ROOM...
THESE ARE EXACTLY THE KIND OF SELFISH, DANGEROUS PEOPLE WE NEED TO GET THE JOBS DONE WE NEED DONE.
TRUE.
BUT ARE YOU GOING TO LET IT GO DOWN THIS ROAD WITH THEM, OR THE SMART ROAD?

TAKE CARE OF THIS AT YOUR DISCRETION.
NOW, IF YOU WOULD.
I'D DO IT MYSELF, BUT I FEEL I MAY DO OR SAY SOMETHING RASH AND UNPRODUCTIVE.

I HAVE FULL AUTHORITY?

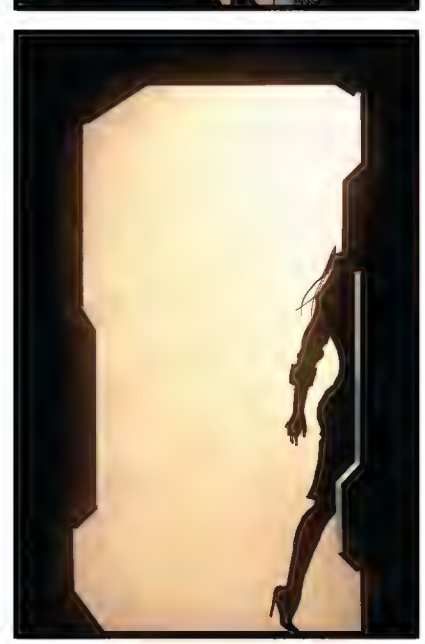
YOU ALWAYS DID.
THANK YOU, SIR.
VICTORIA?
YES SIR?

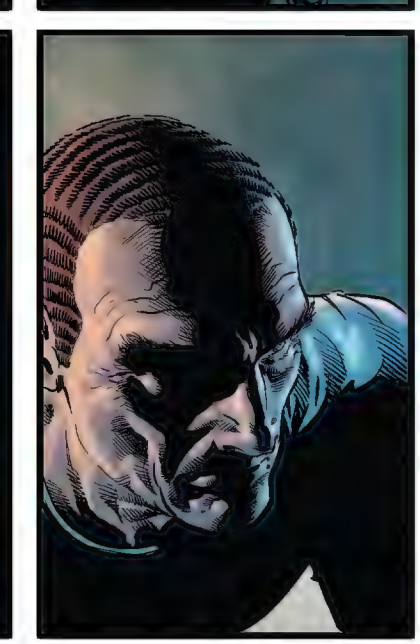
FIND OUT FROM ARES HOW THE ASGARD PLANNING SESSIONS ARE GOING AND GET BACK TO ME.

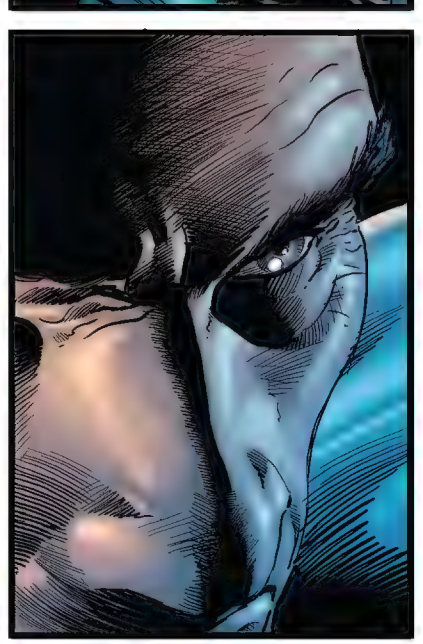
SIR?
HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE PUTTING TOGETHER ASGARD INVASION SCENARIOS FOR ME TO GO OVER.

BUT, SIR, YOU DON'T HAVE THE AUTHORITY.

YOU HAD YOUR MOMENT, VICTORIA.
DON'T PUSH IT.







HAHAHAHAHA!!
YOU'RE JUST THE DEVIL!!
AHEM!
OH, PLEASE.
WHAT IS THIS SUPPOSED TO BE?
GO TO YOUR ROOM, DOCTOR. HAWKEYE, YOU STAY HERE.
WHOA, WHAT'S GOING ON?
OH YEAH, HAND, IS IT YOUR TURN NEXT?
GO TO MY ROOM? ARE YOU SERIOUS?
DOCTOR, YOU'RE ACTING IN AN INAPPROPRIATE MANNER AND YOU ARE EXCUSED.
SISTER, ARE YOU HOLDING A GUN ON ME?
YOU ARE ONE DUMB--

AARGGHAGGHH!!
TAKE HER TO HER ROOM, PLEASE.
AFTER SHE'S DONE SPASMING.
GGKKSS...
WELL LOOK AT YOU, ALL OF A SUDDEN.
I LIKE THIS NEW YOU.
DON'T PUSH ME.
WHY DON'T YOU GO OFF TO THE GYM AND...CALM YOURSELF DOWN.
I'M NOT GROUNDED?
FOR LETTING THAT HARPY USE YOU?
NO.
IF YOU'RE TOO STUPID TO STAY THE HELL AWAY FROM HER, WHAT THE HELL AM I GOING TO DO TO YOU THAT YOU AREN'T ALREADY DOING TO YOURSELF?
YEAH.
I'M GOING TO KILL YOU IN YOUR SLEEP.
UH...
ARMOR?
ENVIRONMENTAL THREAT DETECTED.
WHAT KIND? FROM WHERE?
ANALYZING.
PUT IT ON SCREEN.
OH, NO...
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?

WE HAD A DEAL, ROBERT.

WE HAD A DEAL, YOU AND I.
WHAT IS THIS?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING??
YOU SAID THERE WAS NO VOID.
I WAS WRONG.
CLEARLY.
YES.
SO...I GUESS THERE IS NO ROBERT REYNOLDS, IS THERE?
THERE IS NO SENTRY.
THERE'S A LITTLE BIT.

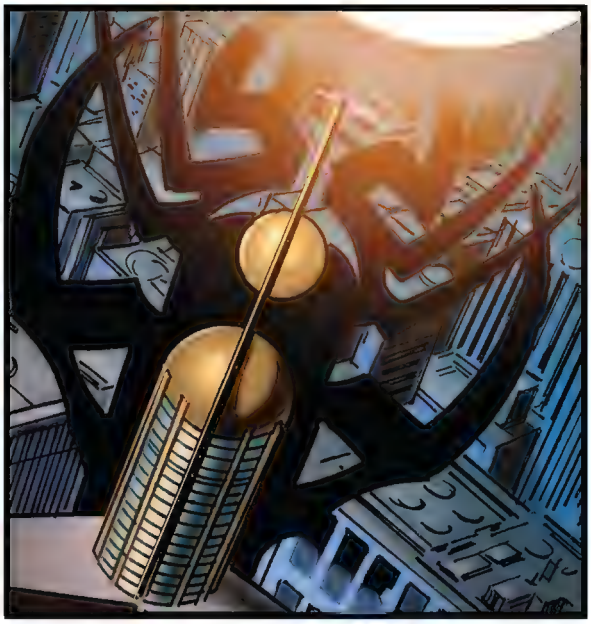
AVENGERS! HIT THE STREET!
SAVE PEOPLE! EVERYONE YOU CAN!
GET THE INITIATIVE UP AND READY TO GO!
CALL ALL FRIENDLIES IN AND GET WORKING!
THEN LET ME TALK TO HIM.
NO.
YOU JUST CONFUSE HIM.
YOU FEED HIS CHILDISH NEED TO BE A SUPER HERO.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND. WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?
WHAT HAPPENED TO ME WHEN?
WHAT--WHAT HAPPENED THAT YOU WOULD DO THIS?
THAT YOU WOULD RUIN EVERYTHING WE HELPED EACH OTHER BUILD?

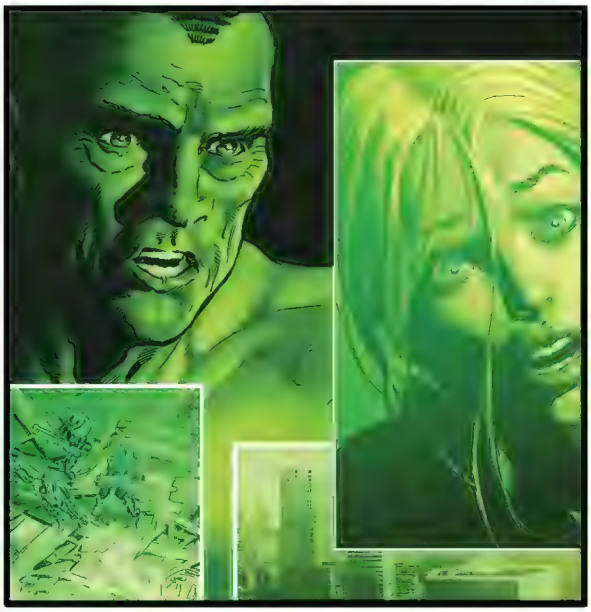
I TIRE OF IT, NORMAN. I TIRE OF FIGHTING WITH MYSELF.
AND THIS IS THE WAY OUT. I TAKE CONTROL OF EVERYTHING I CAN SEE.
I TURN THE WORLD INTO SOMETHING MUCH MORE--
INTO WHAT?
INTO SOMETHING ROBERT REYNOLDS AND LINDY CAN'T LIVE IN!
AND THEN THEY GO AWAY!
LINDY.
I CAN'T KILL HER. I CAN'T!
BOB WON'T LET ME DO THAT.
BUT I CAN MAKE HER WATCH! I CAN PUNISH HER.
WHAT DID-- WHAT DID SHE SAY TO YOU?

SHE'S NOT THE PROBLEM, NORMAN.
I THINK SHE MIGHT BE PART OF IT.
WHAT DID SHE DO?
LISTEN TO ME! YOU AND I HAD A DEAL!
A DEAL? DO I LOOK LIKE A CAR SALESMAN?
THIS IS A TANTRUM!
MM. MAYBE.
THIS DOES NOTHING! A CHILD CAN DO THIS.
YOU WANT TO CHANGE THINGS? YOU WANT TO CONTROL YOUR WORLD:
YOU LISTEN TO ME! YOU DO WHAT I SAY. I CAN GIVE YOU THAT WHICH YOU EVEN--

NORMAN, I LIKE YOU, I DO.
BUT YOU'RE TRYING TO MANIPULATE ME WHILE I AM IN A VERY FRAGILE STATE AND I FIND IT DISTASTEFUL.
MANIPULATE YOU? HOW COULD I MANIPULATE YOU?
I SAID YOU'RE TRYING. I DIDN'T SAY YOU ARE.
YOU WANT TO CONTROL YOUR LIFE? YOU DO WHAT I SAY!
THIS THING YOU'RE DOING HERE--THIS IS YOU TRYING TO GET YOURSELF KILLED.
WHO'S GOING TO KILL ME, NORMAN?
YOU?
NO!!
BUT REED RICHARDS CAN!
TONY STARK CAN!
VICTOR VON DOOM CAN!
YOU'LL FORCE THEM TO!
IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT? YOU WANT THEM TO KILL YOU?!
BECAUSE YOU DO THIS--YOU DO THIS FOR ONE MORE SECOND! THAT'S WHAT COMES NEXT.
AND YOU KNOW IT!
IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT?!
IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT?!

WHAT THE HELL?
I MEAN, WHAT THE HELL?
OKAY.
WHAT NOW?
YOU EVER DO THAT AGAIN, YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN.
I WON'T STOP YOU. AND I WON'T STOP WHAT HAPPENS TO YOU NEXT.
I DESERVE MORE RESPECT FROM YOU THAN THIS, ROBERT, I REALLY DO.
BUT, THAT SAID, IF YOU NEED ME, IF YOU'RE IN TROUBLE LIKE THIS...YOU COME TO ME. BEFORE THINGS GET TO THIS POINT.
LIKE A MAN. YOU DO THAT...I'M YOUR FRIEND.
WHAT NOW?
BOSS.
WHEN I CALL YOU TONIGHT...
I PROMISE YOU SOMETHING WORTH YOUR VISION OF THE WORLD.





SLICCEE SLICCEE SLICCEE
WHAT THE HELL WAS *THAT* TODAY?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, HAWKEYE. IT'S UNDER CONTROL.
SURE.
IS THIS ABOUT THE THING WITH THE BROAD?
STAND UP.
YOU FEELING A LITTLE BLOOD-THIRSTY?
ALWAYS.
WHEN I GIVE YOU THE SIGNAL...
I NEED YOU TO TAKE CARE OF SOMETHING.
YEAH? WHO?
HIS WIFE.

DARK AVENGERS #10 PAGES 22-23 LAYOUT SKETCH & INKS BY
MIKE DEODATO JR.

DARK AVENGERS #15

AVENGER TOWER.
TWO DAYS AGO.
THE CABAL.
OSBORN...
PRODUCE. NAMOR AND I WON'T HAVE YOU KILLED.
I SEE. ...
YOU DO REMEMBER, DOOM, I HAVE A WAY OF DEALING WITH YOU PHYSICALLY IF I NEED TO.
HAVE A CARE.
TO THREATEN MY PERSON IS TO THREATEN YOUR OWN.
IF THAT'S THE WAY YOU WANT IT.
PLEASE COME IN HERE.

LAST CHANCE.
IN OR OUT, DOOM.
COME ON, MAN...
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT??!!
I WOULD RATHER DIE THAN--!
FINE.
KILL HIM.

INVASION

VICTORIA!
THIS IS IRON PATRIOT. EVACUATE THE TOWER! NOW!!
THE ENTIRE--??
THE ENTIRE BUILDING!
WE ARE UNDER ATTACK!

SECURITY CAMERAS. ALL FLOORS. ALL STATIONS.
AARRGGHH!
THIS IS AGENT BULLOCK IN AVENGERS TOWER LOBBY!
WE ARE UNDER ATTACK! REPEAT WE ARE--!

CODE RED CODE RED!
FULL BUILDING EVACUATION!

THE QUINJET'S ON THE ROOF!
GO, GO!
ALL OF YOU!
WHY DON'T WE GET INTO IT WITH WHATEVER'S ATTACKING US?
THAT'S NOT THE ORDER!
FOLLOW THE ORDER!
WE ARE UNDER... AARRGGHH!!
ARMOR!!
ANALYZE THREAT.
UNKNOWN ENERGY SOURCE.
CAN YOU NEUTRALIZE THE UNKNOWN ENERGY SOURCE?
SHIELDS AT 44 PERCENT.
I DON'T NEED YOU NOW.
NOW I NEED BOB.
WHY?
YOU CAN'T BE SEEN HERE. DON'T ARGUE WITH ME.
I CAN--
I TOLD YOU--YOU HAVE TO TRUST ME.
GO GET ME BOB REYNOLDS.
BOB IT IS.

AVENGERS!
IN THE QUINJET, NOW!
YOU FOLLOW ORDERS!
I CAN DO AERIAL RECON.
WHAT'S THE POINT OF EVEN--
WHAT IS IT?! WHAT'S HAPPENED?!
WE'RE UNDER ATTACK, SENTRY. ORDERS ARE TO--
TAKE MY WIFE.
GET IN THE JET! I'LL EXPLAIN ON THE--
WHAT'S HAPPENING??
WHERE'S NORMAN--?
YOUR ORDER IS TO STAND-- ARGH!
GUY DOESN'T LISTEN!
WHAT IS GOING ON?
YOUR HUSBAND DOESN'T LISTEN IS WHAT IS GOING ON!
GET IN THE QUINJET, MRS. REYNOLDS.
AGENT, IS THAT YOUR COPTER?
YEAH, I CAN TAKE YOU OUT OF HERE.
I'LL TAKE HER. YOU MAKE SURE THE BUILDING IS EMPTY.
OSBORN SAID EVERYONE.
YES, SIR.
EVERYONE!
GET IN THE QUINJET!
NOW!!
COME WITH ME, MRS. REYNOLDS!
WE'LL GET YOU OUT OF HERE SAFE AND--
I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND! WHAT IS GOING ON?
HONESTLY, NEITHER DO I! BUT WE'LL WORRY ABOUT THAT LATER.
COME ON! YOUR HUSBAND WILL KILL ME IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO YOU.
PLEASE, MRS. REYNOLDS...
IT'S TIME.

WHERE THE HELL IS HAWKEYE GOING?
YOU TOLD HIM TO LEAVE.
I TOLD HIM TO--
WHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUP
WHUPWHUPWHUPWHUP
THAT SON OF A BITCH!
LET'S GO! GET IN THE AIR!
WHY ISN'T IT WORKING??
YOU GOTTA TURN THE BLUE THINGY.
I TURNED THE BLUE THINGY.
I CAN FLY IT.
GET OUT OF THE WAY.
YOU HAD IT ON EMERGENCY LOCKDOWN.
NO, I DIDN'T.
THEN HOW DID IT GET IN EMERGENCY LOCKDOWN?
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT THAT IS.
EVERYONE IN YOUR SEATS.
WHERE TO, MS. HAND?
FOLLOW HAWKEYE.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE HELL HE THINKS HE'S DOING, BUT...
DO YOU SEE HIM? I DON'T SEE HIM.
WHAT?
CHECK THE RADAR.
CALL HIM ON THE RADIO.
WHAT FREQUENCY?
WHAT WHAT?
WHAT RADIO FREQUENCY?
DOES HE EVEN KNOW WHERE WE'RE GOING?

WHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUPWHUP
YOU OKAY BACK THERE, MRS. REYNOLDS?
UH, I, UH, THINK SO.
RADIO
ON
OFF
IT'S ACTUALLY KIND OF NICE OUT TONIGHT.
UH, WHAT HAPPENED BACK THERE?
I GUESS THE BUILDING WAS UNDER ATTACK.
BY WHO?
WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE?
I'M SORRY?
DOES IT MATTER? IT COULD HAVE BEEN ANYONE.
YOUR HUSBAND WILL FIX IT.

WHERE ARE WE GOING?
THERE'S A SAFEHOUSE. IN CASE OF EMERGENCIES.
IN THE OCEAN?
ON THE OCEAN. NOT FAR FROM HERE. EVERYONE WILL BE THERE.
THEY'LL LET US KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON WHEN WE GET THERE.

THANK YOU, BY THE WAY.

NO PROBLEM.
JUST FOLLOWING ORDERS.

WHUPWHUPWHUPWHUP
HEY, UH, WHAT'S IT LIKE BEING MARRIED TO A BIG, FAMOUS SUPER HERO?

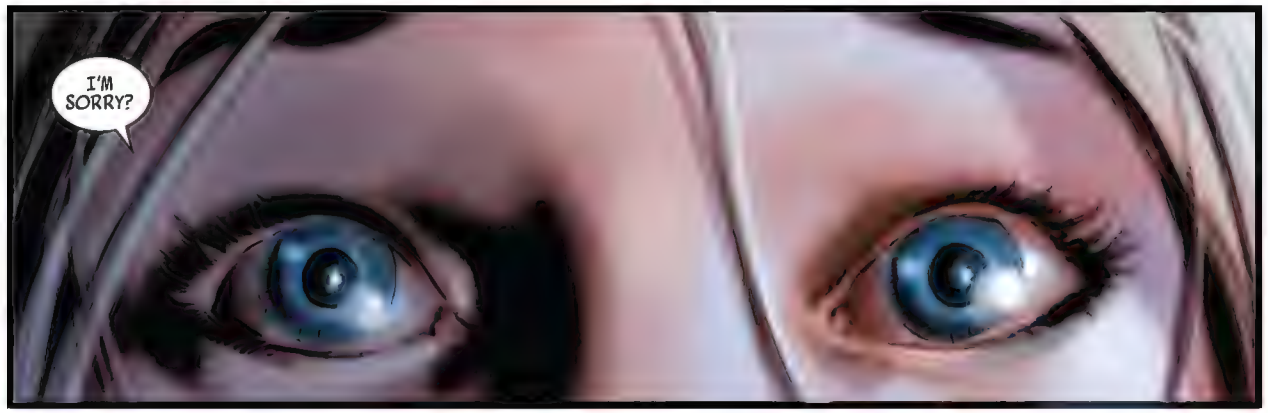
I'M SORRY?
WHAT'S IT LIKE--?
I'M NOT SURE HOW TO ANSWER THAT.

MUST BE NICE TO FEEL SAFE ALL THE TIME.
PROTECTED.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME AGAIN?

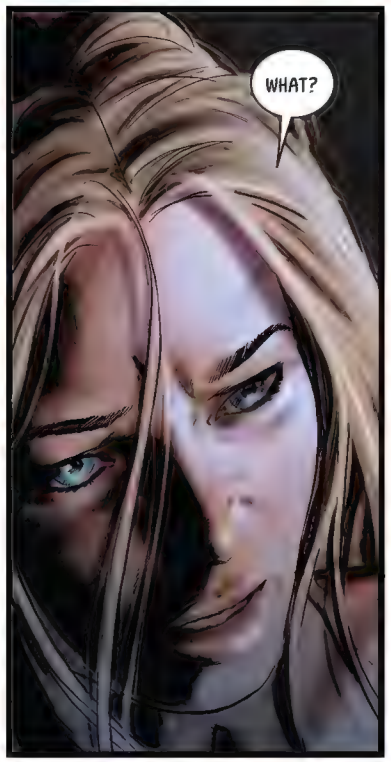
I'M HAWKEYE, MA'AM, I'M AN AVENGER.
NO, I MEANT, WHAT'S YOUR REAL NAME?
ARE YOU ALLOWED TO SAY?
OH, UH, BENJAMIN.
HEY, YOU GUYS GOING TO HAVE ANY KIDS?

UH, NO.
THAT'S TOO BAD.
IT'S, UH, IT'S NOT THE RIGHT TIME.

SORRY, IF I'M BEING TOO PERSONAL.
NO.
I ALWAYS WONDERED, THOUGH.
WHAT DO YOU THINK HE SEES IN YOU?


I'M SORRY?

YOUR HUSBAND, HE'S ALMOST A GOD...
AND YOU-- YOU'RE KIND OF, WELL, FRUMPY IS THE BEST WORD I CAN THINK OF.


WHAT?

I MEAN, HE CAN HAVE ANYBODY. I MEAN, I CAN HAVE ANYBODY. AND ALL I DO IS KILL PEOPLE.
AND I SWEAR, I CAN GET ANY GIRL I WANT.
IMAGINE THE ASS HE IS MISSING OUT ON BECAUSE HE'S MARRIED TO YOU.

AND LOOK AT YOU. DO YOU EVEN OWN A BRUSH? OR A MIRROR?
GET BACK.

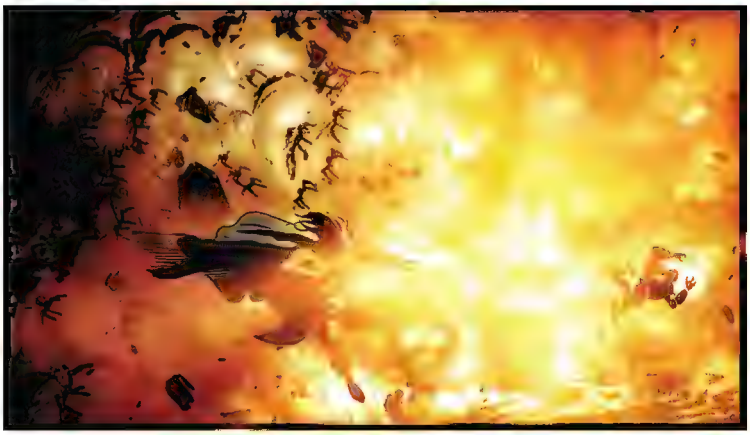
I MEAN, WE ALL KNOW YOUR HUSBAND IS NUTS.
BUT MARRYING YOU WHEN HE COULD BE DATING SUPERMODELS FROM NUMEROUS PLANETS...
NOW THAT IS NUTS.

SLAP

THANK YOU.

NOOOOO!!!

AH.



=COFF=
AGH!
BUILDING SECURE.

WHUPWHUPWHUPWHU
WHERE WERE YOU?
WHERE'D YOU GO?
WHERE'S MY WIFE?
WHERE'S... LINDY?
SHE...SHE SAID SHE DIDN'T WANT HER LIFE ANYMORE.
SHE SAID SHE WAS... SCARED OF YOU.
AND SHE--SHE JUMPED.
I COULDN'T EVEN GET MY SEATBELT UNBUCKLED BEFORE SHE DID IT.
SHE JUST... JUMPED.
WHAT?

WHAT DID YOU DO TO MY WIFE!!??
YAAARRGH!!
HE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING!
WHERE IS SHE?
STOP THIS NOW!
I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING!
WHY WOULD I DO THAT?
YOU COULD KILL ME IN TWO SECONDS.
WHY WOULD I TOUCH HER? I TRIED TO SAVE HER!
SHE KILLED HERSELF!
YOU THINK I'D COME BACK HERE?
SHE DID THIS. YOU DESERVED TO KNOW.
WHO KNEW SHE WAS SO DISTRAUGHT?
I'M SORRY, MAN...
I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY, BOB.
HE TRIED.
COFF!
AGH!
WHERE?
WHERE DID SHE DO IT?
WE WERE SOMEWHERE OVER JERSEY.
FARM LAND.
I DON'T KNOW WHERE EXACTLY.
I'M--I'M SORRY.

SEND A SPECIAL OPS CONVOY TO TRY AND HELP THE SENTRY DO WHATEVER HE NEEDS TO DO.
I WANT UPDATES.
SECOND, LET THE WHITE HOUSE KNOW THE TOWER WAS THE VICTIM OF AN ATTEMPTED LATVERIAN TERRORIST ATTACK.
IS THAT TRUE?
WHY WOULD I ASK YOU TO TELL THE WHITE HOUSE SOMETHING THAT WASN'T TRUE?

DARK AVENGERS #16

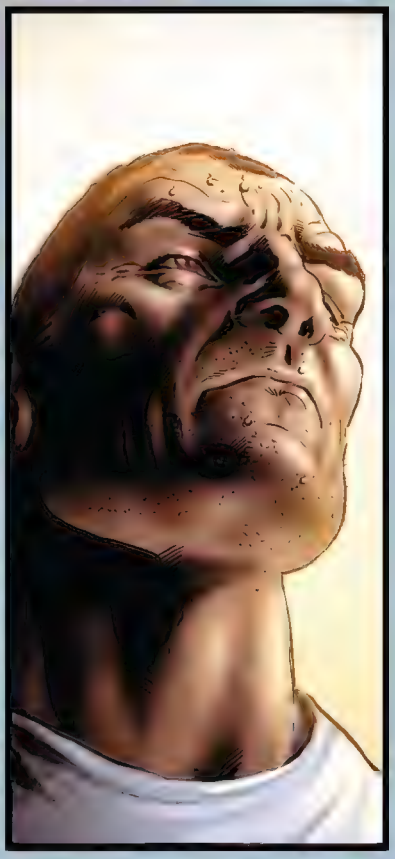
The mighty Thor, god of thunder, has recently returned to Earth and brought the golden city of Asgard and all the gods who it called home with him. Asgard floats just feet above the fields of Broxton, Oklahoma.

With the coaxing of Thor's brother Loki, Norman osborn sets his sights on Asgard. After manufacturing an incident that gave him an excuse to invade, Norman does, in full force, backed by his Dark Avengers, the corrupted criminal Initiative teams and conventional H.A.M.M.E.R. forces — and in front of the invited world media.

United against a common threat, the heroes gathered under the leadership of the newly resurrected Captain America, Steve Rogers, and ultimately lifted Osborn's siege. With the Avengers triumphant, Rogers is now in charge of the United States' well-being.

But all this was not without cost. The great city of Asgard has fallen.

RYKER'S ISLAND MAXIMUM SECURITY PENITENTIARY.
THE RAFT, RYKER'S MAXIMUM, MAXIMUM SECURITY INSTALLATION.



YESTERDAY.
THE SIEGE OF ASGARD.
HANDS OVER YOUR HEADS.
YOU PUNKS ARE OFFICIALLY WAR CRIMINALS. MAKE A MOVE AND I'LL SHOOT YA ON SIGHT.
TOOTS...
YOU BET YOU WILL.
WE'LL SEE, FURY.
I SERVED MY COUNTRY, SAME AS ALL OF YOU.
YA KNOW, SOMETIMES IT'S NICE TO KNOW IT'S TIME TO SHUT THE ##$$% UP.
OH, HEY...
I WANT YOU PEOPLE TO PROMISE ME HE PAYS FOR HIS CRIMES.
IN AN AMERICAN COURT.
HE PAYS. HE GOES TO JAIL FOR THIS.

SON OF A--!!
THIS IS DANVERS! MOONSTONE'S MAKING A GETAWAY!
I AM IN PURSUIT.
HA!
IT'S BULLSEYE! HE'S BOLTING!
OH, GOOD. IT'S YOU.
I GOT IT.
FFIIIZZZZZZ
EEHAM
BOOM
HEH.

SMACK
SMACK

OH BOY.

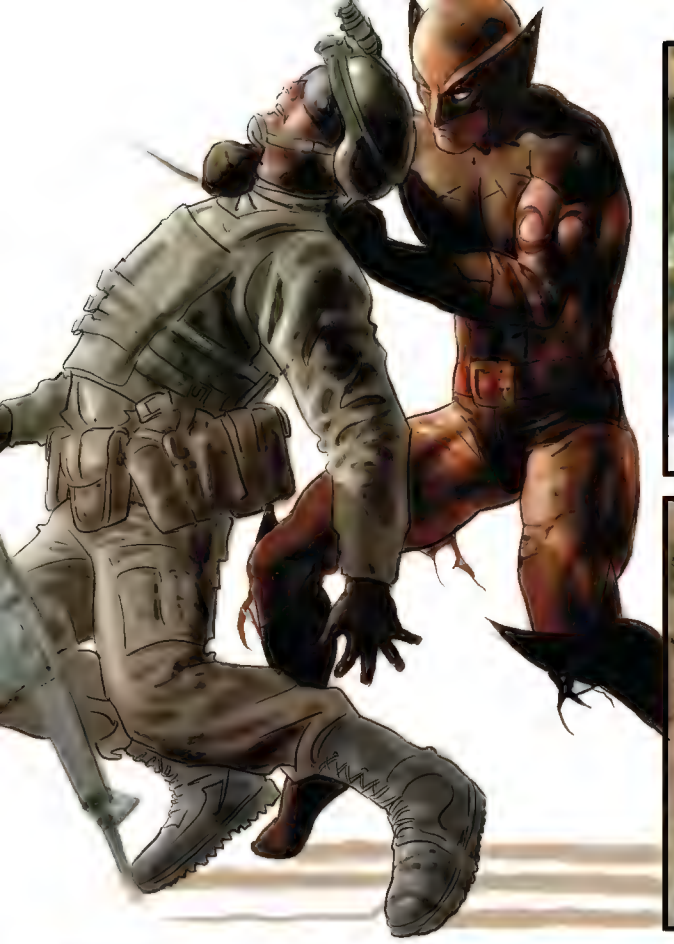
HARUMP

YOU DROPPED SOMETHING.
THANKS, LUKE.
ANYBODY ELSE GOT ANY SHENANIGANS THEY WANT TO TRY?

MY NAME IS VICTORIA HAND.
I WOULD LIKE A LAWYER, PLEASE.

I KNOW WHO YOU ARE, COMMANDER HAND.

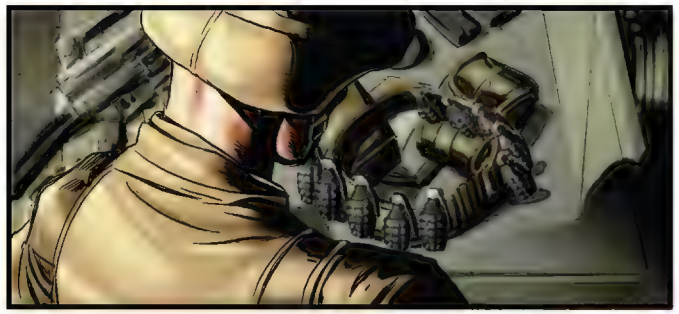
BROXTON, MAIN STREET.
DARK WOLVERINE.
LISTEN AND LISTEN GOOD...
BY THE ORDER OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, BROXTON, OKLAHOMA IS NOW UNDER A TEMPORARY ORDER OF MARTIAL LAW.
THAT MEANS, U.S. ARMY PERSONNEL, AND U.S. ARMY PERSONNEL ONLY ARE IN CHARGE.
CURFEW FOR CITIZENS OF THIS ENTIRE CITY IS IN IMMEDIATE EFFECT.
AGENTS OF H.A.M.M.E.R., YOU ARE UNDER ARREST.
DROP YOUR WEAPONS AND SURRENDER TO THE NEAREST U.S. ARMED FORCES REPRESENTATIVE.
YOUR WEAPONS ARE CONFISCATED AND YOUR TITLE IS DECOMMISSIONED EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.
YOU HAVE NO JURISDICTION HERE.
DO COOPERATE.
YOU ARE ALL NOW FUGITIVES FROM FEDERAL JUSTICE AND WE HAVE ORDERS TO SHOOT ON SIGHT.
SURRENDER NOW, OR YOUR RIGHTS WILL BE FORFEITED.
WE WILL BE SEARCHING ALL HOMES AND BUSINESSES.
SURRENDER NOW. YOUR COOPERATION WILL BE NOTED.
HORODOWSKY, CHECK THE BARBER SHOP. MARCOS, CHECK THE BAR.
YES SIR.
ANYONE IN HERE? THIS IS THE UNITED STATES ARMY...
U.S. ARMY!
CHUCK

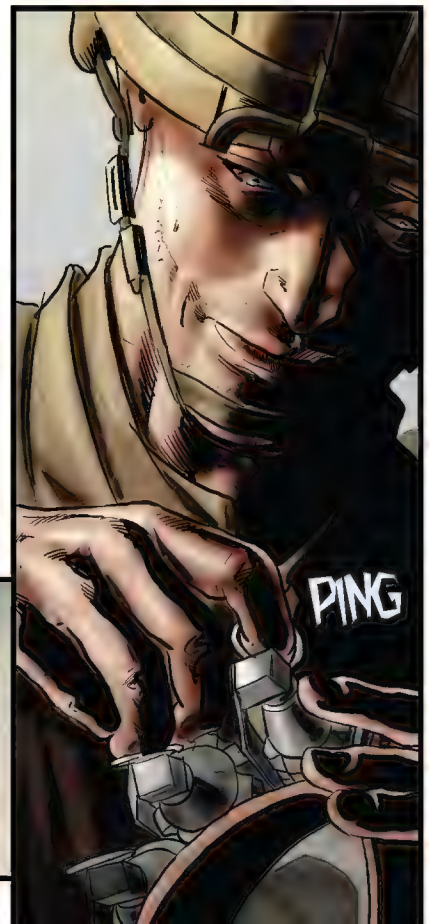


CLEAR.
WHY CAN'T WE JUST GO BACK TO OUR HOMES??
IT'S JUST FOR THE TIME BEING, SIR.
MY DOG...
WE'LL HELP YOU FIND YOUR DOG.

HEY, GUYS... YOU HEARD THE SARGE.
EVERYONE IN FRONT OF THE MOVIE THEATRE. ASAP.
GUY CALLED IT, LIKE, TEN MINUTES AGO.
WHEN WAS THIS?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
HELL IF I KNOW.
GET YOUR GEAR AND GET MOVING.

WHERE'S THE MOVIE THEATRE?
THIS ENTIRE TOWN IS TWO BLOCKS LONG. SHOULDN'T BE HARD TO FIND.
HEY, WHO WAS THAT GUY?
HELL IF I KNOW.




PING

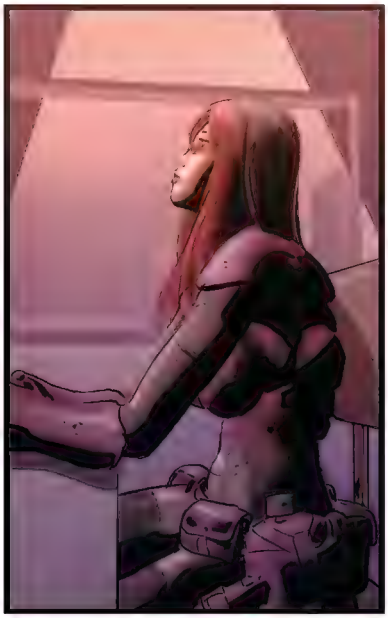
CHUCK

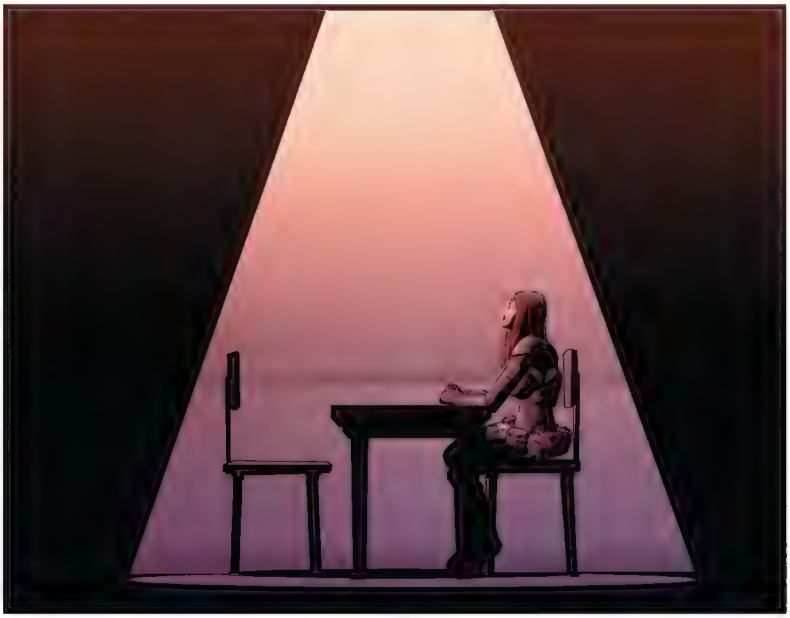
VRAROOM

FAGABOND

AVENGERS TOWER.
WHAT ARE WE DOIN' HERE, FURY?
GUY WANTED TO TALK TO YA.
PHOBOS, SON OF ARES.
I AM THOR.
YOUR FATHER, ARES, SON OF ZEUS, DIED IN BATTLE THE WAY HE MOST LIKELY WOULD HAVE WANTED TO.
AND AS IS OUR WAY, HE BEQUEATHED YOU ALL THAT WAS HIS.
HE WAS A MIGHTY WARRIOR, WITH THE HEART OF A LION.

WHEN YOU GROW OLDER...
HOPEFULLY YOU WILL GROW TO KNOW, YOUR FATHER MOVED MOUNTAINS TO TRY AND GIVE TO YOU THAT WHICH HE NEVER HAD.
AND HE DIED TRYING TO PROTECT IT.
HE WAS A SON OF A BITCH.
DO YOU WANT ME TO TAKE YOU TO NEW OLYMPUS TO MEET WITH YOUR KIN?
UH, NO.
AS YOUR FATHER WOULD HAVE WANTED IT.
BUT THAT WAS YOURS TO DECIDE, YOUNG PRINCE.
BUT KNOW THAT IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND, I WILL GRANT YOU YOUR WISH.
I TOO LOST MY FATHER RECENTLY AND I TOO WAS FILLED WITH RAGE AND SADNESS,
BUT I HAVE SINCE DECIDED TO LIVE MY LIFE THE WAY HE HAD LIVED HIS.
TO HONOR HIS LIFE BY LIVING MINE IN TURN.
I OFFER YOU THAT SAME WISDOM.
AND THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T WANT YOU FIGHTING THIS FIGHT. THAT'S WHY I WOULDN'T LET YOU GO.
I COULD HAVE SAVED HIM.
NAH, KID. IT WOULDN'T HAVE GONE DOWN ANY DIFFERENT.
AND IT HAPPENED BEFORE WE EVEN GOT THERE.
DON'T WORRY.
EVERYONE IS GETTING WHAT IS COMING TO THEM.





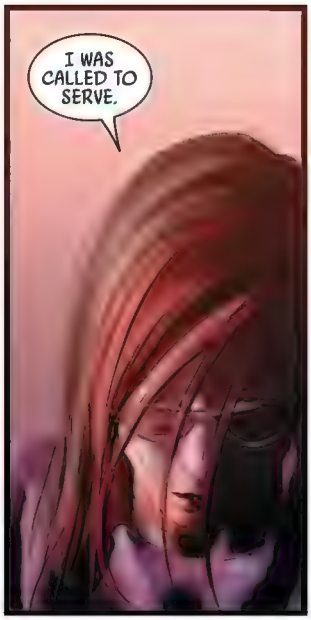
MISS HAND, DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?

YES, CAPTAIN AMERICA, I DO.
CALL ME CAPTAIN ROGERS.
HAVE WE MET BEFORE? IN PERSON?

NO, SIR.
I WAS ONLY A S.H.I.E.L.D. ACCOUNTANT WHEN YOU WERE LAST...ALIVE.

I KNOW.
I'M NOW WELL-VERSED IN THE WORLD ACCORDING TO VICTORIA HAND.
I WAS JUST WONDERING IF WE'D MET IN PASSING OR...
NO, SIR.
WELL, I CAME HERE TO SPEAK TO YOU, IN PERSON, BECAUSE I KNOW WHAT NORMAN OSBORN IS.
I KNOW WHAT ALMOST ALL OF THOSE AVENGERS HE PICKED OUT ARE.
I *KNOW* THAT. I *UNDERSTAND* THAT. AS TAINTED AND TWISTED AS IT ALL WAS, I DO UNDERSTAND IT.

BUT WHEN I LAY ALL THE PIECES OF THIS ON THE TABLE, *YOU* WERE THE PIECE I WAS HAVING TROUBLE UNDERSTANDING.
WHAT WAS SOMEONE LIKE YOU EVEN *DOING* HERE?


I WAS CALLED TO SERVE.

EVEN FOR A MAN LIKE THAT.

I WILL-- OKAY, I WILL BE THE FACE OF IT FOR YOU.
AS HARD AS THIS MAY BE FOR SOMEONE LIKE *YOU* TO UNDERSTAND...I, AND MILLIONS OF AMERICANS, WERE VERY TAKEN IN BY A VERY CHARISMATIC MAN WITH THE PROMISE OF AN AGENDA I COMPLETELY AND WHOLEHEARTEDLY AGREED WITH.
AND I WAS *VERY* EXCITED TO TRY TO MAKE THE WORLD BETTER AND SAFER THAN IT HAS BEEN FOR A *VERY* LONG TIME.

EXCEPT FOR THE FACT THAT HE'S INSANE. AND THE SENTRY...

YES, YES. BUT YOU SAID YOU READ MY REPORTS.
I WAS *TRYING* TO GET HIM HELP. I WAS *TRYING* TO FIX THE PROBLEM FROM WITHIN.
BUT HE WAS A RUNAWAY FREIGHT TRAIN COMING RIGHT AT MY FACE AND I *FAILED*.
I FAILED HIM AND I FAILED THE COUNTRY.

HMM.

WELL, AS I SAID, I READ ALL ABOUT YOU.
AND I MUST SAY I FEVERISHLY DISAGREE WITH ALMOST EVERY THOUGHT YOU HAVE ROLLING AROUND IN THAT HEAD OF YOURS.
YES SIR.
BUT YOU ARE A PATRIOT. AND AN EXCEPTIONAL SOLDIER.
AND YOU HAVE DONE NOTHING BUT SERVE THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY.
I'LL EXPECT THE SAME FROM YOU.
SIR?
TAKE A LONG WEEKEND.
SHOWER. GET AHOLD OF YOURSELF.
OH, AND CALL YOUR PARENTS. THEY ARE VERY UPSET.
AND I'LL SEE YOU FOR YOUR NEXT ASSIGNMENT BRIGHT AND EARLY MONDAY MORNING.
WHAT?

WELL, I'LL GIVE YOU CREDIT, NORMAN.
WHEN YOU SCREW THE POOCH, YOU REALLY SCREW THE POOCH.
YOU CAN MAKE FUN OF ME ALL YOU WANT...
BUT YOU KNOW THIS IS TRUE...

I WAS RIGHT.
THE WORLD *IS* A MESS AND THE WORLD NEEDED ME TO *FIX* IT. AND I *WOULD* HAVE. I COULD HAVE.
THIS WORLD IS A MADHOUSE OF MUTANTS, TERRORISTS, PSYCHOTICS, ALIENS AND MONSTERS.
ALL OF THEM CLASHING AND CRASHING INTO EACH OTHER AT EVERY SECOND OF EVERY DAY.

PEOPLE PUT ON COSTUMES AND JUST DECIDE, ALL BY THEMSELVES, THAT THEY ARE THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD.
THAT IT'S *OKAY* FOR THEM TO GO AND DO WHATEVER THE HELL THEY WANT TO WHOEVER THEY WANT BECAUSE THEY HAVE A *COSTUME*.

WELL, I AM TELLING YOU, THE WORLD IS GOING TO END, ONE DAY SOON, IT'S GOING TO ACTUALLY EXPLODE.
THE WRONG CREATURE IS GOING TO SLAM INTO THE WRONG MUTANT AND BOOM.
THAT WILL BE IT.
ALL OF THIS-- ALL OF IT WILL HAVE BEEN FOR NOTHING.
ALL I WANTED TO DO WAS *STOP IT*.
ALL I WANTED TO DO WAS FIX THE PROBLEMS BEFORE THEY HAPPENED.

I *KNOW* THE MUTANTS OF THIS WORLD WILL RISE UP AND KILL US.
I *KNOW* THAT THE HULK WILL ONE DAY DECIDE TO DESTROY EVERYTHING HE SEES.
I *KNOW* THE PUNISHER WILL ONE DAY KILL THE WRONG PERSON AND SET OFF A CHAIN OF EVENTS THAT WILL LEAD TO *NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST*.
I *KNOW* THAT THESE HEROES WILL DIVE HEAD FIRST INTO SOMETHING THEY DO NOT UNDERSTAND AND END UP DOING SUCH INSANE DAMAGE TO THE WORLD THAT HUMANS CAN NO LONGER *LIVE* ON IT.
VICTOR VON DOOM WILL CRUSH US UNDER FOOT IN HIS LAST MAD GASP OF AIR.
I KNOW THIS IS TRUE.

I *KNOW* IT.
AND I COULD HAVE STOPPED IT.
IF NOT FOR THE FACT THAT YOU KEPT STANDING IN MY @#$@# WAY...

AW, BOO HOO.
LEAVE ME ALONE.
CAN'T!
I'M STUCK HERE.

HAHAHA HAHAHAHA HAHAHAHA HAHA
THE END.

For many teenagers, the process of growing up and learning to do the right thing can be quite a struggle. It can often lead to feeling like you're an alien, but imagine if you actually were an alien. And to make matters worse, what if you were an alien trying to do the right thing in the morally murky world of the Marvel Universe now that it's in the grip of Norman Osborn's "Dark Reign"? This is the situation the Kree youth Noh-Varr, A.K.A. Captain Marvel, currently finds himself in. In *Dark Avengers Annual* #1 by writer Brian Michael Bendis and artist Chris Bachalo, Noh-Varr finally puts a plan in motion to do what he feels is right for the Marvel U. It's a plan that will put him into conflict with his colleagues on Osborn's Dark Avengers team. CBR News spoke with Bendis about the book.

Noh-Varr first debuted in the 2000 *Marvel Boy* miniseries by Grant Morrison and J.G. Jones. The character laid dormant for a number of years, but recently Bendis began using the character in a number of projects like the *New Avengers: Illuminati* and *Secret Invasion* miniseries, which led to the character's inclusion in the cast of Dark Avengers. "Grant did a great take on him," Bendis told CBR News. "He came to Earth very bratty with cool new toys and gadgets and a surprisingly anti-original Captain Marvel stance. All of that was very interesting to me, and I also like the idea of somebody having to grow up. Their attitude is cute for a minute and then they better get themselves together. I like writing and examining that.

"It's not unlike the first few pages of *Amazing Fantasy* #15," Bendis continued. "Peter Parker was a brat in his first shot out as Spider-Man. Then he got it together. Noh-Varr is the alien version of that. I liked writing the chapter of the Illuminati miniseries where the title characters came to him and said, 'What you're doing may be cute now, but you better grow out of it because something will happen.'" This year's *Dark Avengers Annual* spins out of Noh-Varr's discovery in *Dark Avengers* #5 that his membership on the team put him on the wrong side of current events in the Marvel U. "This was a fun story to do because he's an alien so human behavior and good, acceptable human behavior is all [bad] to him," Bendis stated. "And I liked the idea that he's a young military man figuring he was on the right team because of the people in charge, and lo and behold, he's on the wrong team. Then to have him make that discovery in bed was really fun.

"So now he can't just go, 'Check, please!' and run away. It's like the mob. You're in this until you're dead," Bendis continued. "So this story is about his decision and the chase to find him. The end of it will have a resolution to the Captain Marvel/Marvel Boy story that will affect his appearances in future titles."

Ever since he made the discovery that Norman Osborn and his teammates on the Dark Avengers are actually evil, Captain Marvel has been lying low. In *Dark Avengers* #6, he seemed to have disappeared and did not show up to accompany the rest of the Dark Avengers to San Francisco where they were confronting the X-Men as part of the "Utopia" storyline. *Dark Avengers Annual* #1 will clue readers in to what Noh-Varr has been doing during the events of "Utopia." "That's exactly what this story is about," Bendis said. "Where did he go? How did he get there? And what has he been doing?

"The characters most concerned with those questions are Noh-Varr's former teammates in the Dark Avengers. The annual will find all of the Dark Avengers in hot pursuit of Captain Marvel" the writer said. "We're in the second act of 'Dark Reign' and things are getting dark even for the *Dark Avengers* cast. A lot of those characters are very disturbed. Some of them are going completely off the rails and others are finding their second wind."

It's not just "Utopia" that will affect Noh-Varr's coming confrontation with his former allies. Another upcoming story may result in some of his former teammates actually agreeing with what he's doing. "The 'Dark Reign: The List' specials are coming [out] and there [are] those who question Norman's list," Bendis explained. "'The List' is wide and varied and not everyone is going to agree with everything that's happening, and the Dark Avengers aren't the most cooperative group to begin with. So when someone has a problem, they're going to have a big problem."

It was their recent collaboration on the new Sorcerer Supreme arc in *New Avengers* that led to Bendis recruiting Chris Bachalo for the art duties on this year's *Dark Avengers Annual*. "I was thrilled with the response to him and I thought our work looked good together," Bendis said. "So I grabbed him as soon as possible for this and I think he's perfect because we're telling a story with an alien's point of view on the world. I think the way Chris renders that world will be a great match."

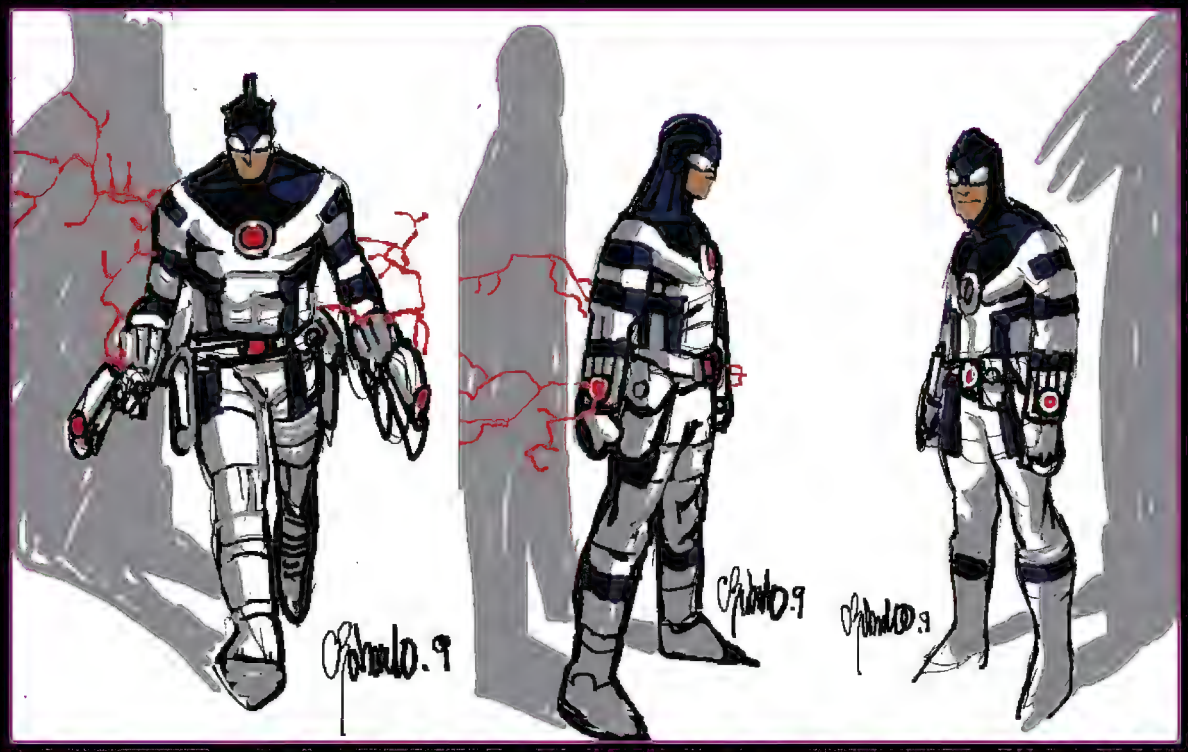
Dark Avengers Annual #1 publishes the same month as *New Avengers Annual* #3, also written by Bendis, but readers shouldn't expect to see much overlap between the two stories. They're both self-contained issues. "The only connection between the two is that they're both big chapters in 'Dark Reign,'" Bendis said. "And something happens at the end of each annual that is very meaningful to the series they're married to."

CHARACTER SKETCHES BY
MIKE DEODATO JR.

VICTORIA HAND

MS. MARVEL

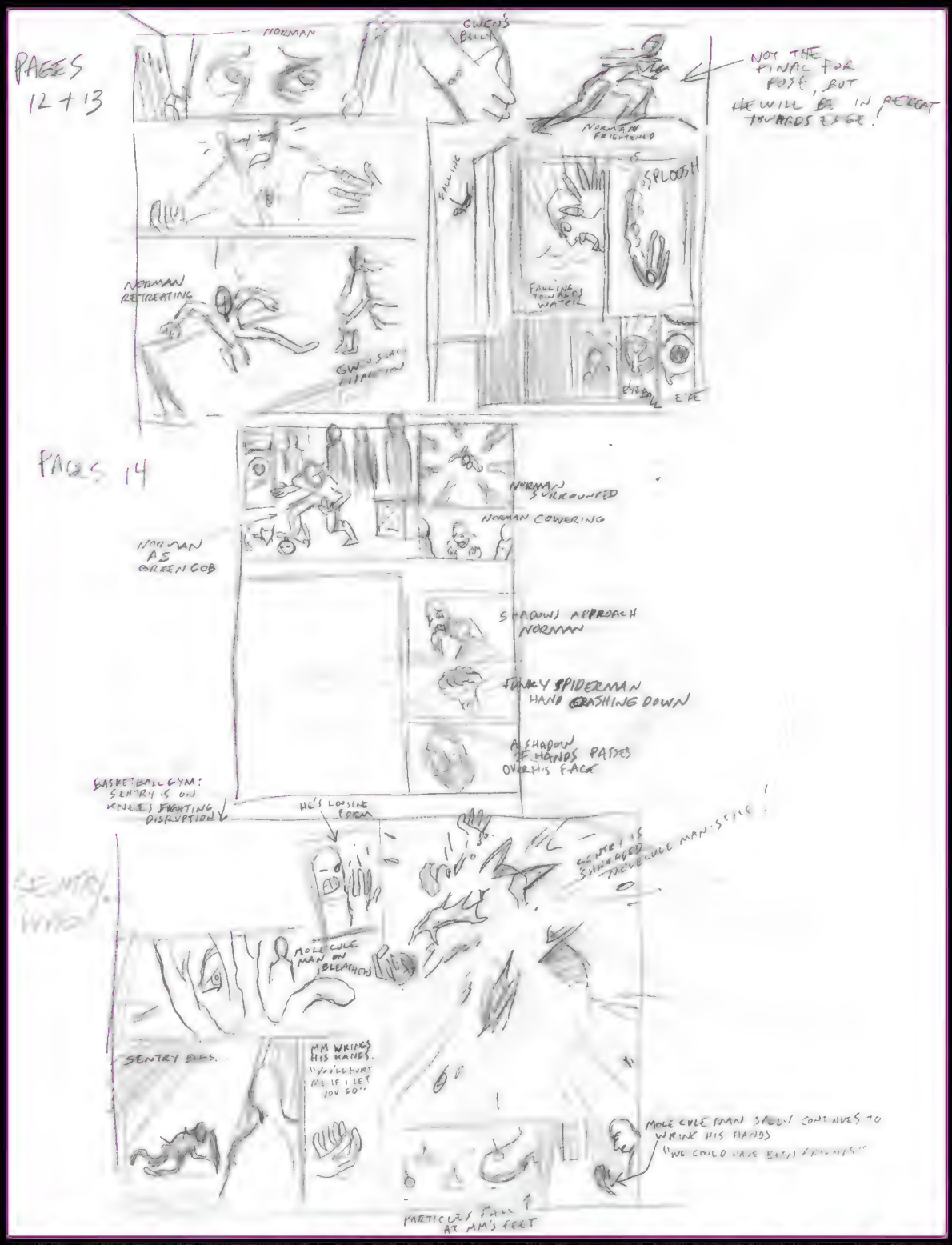
MS. MARVEL

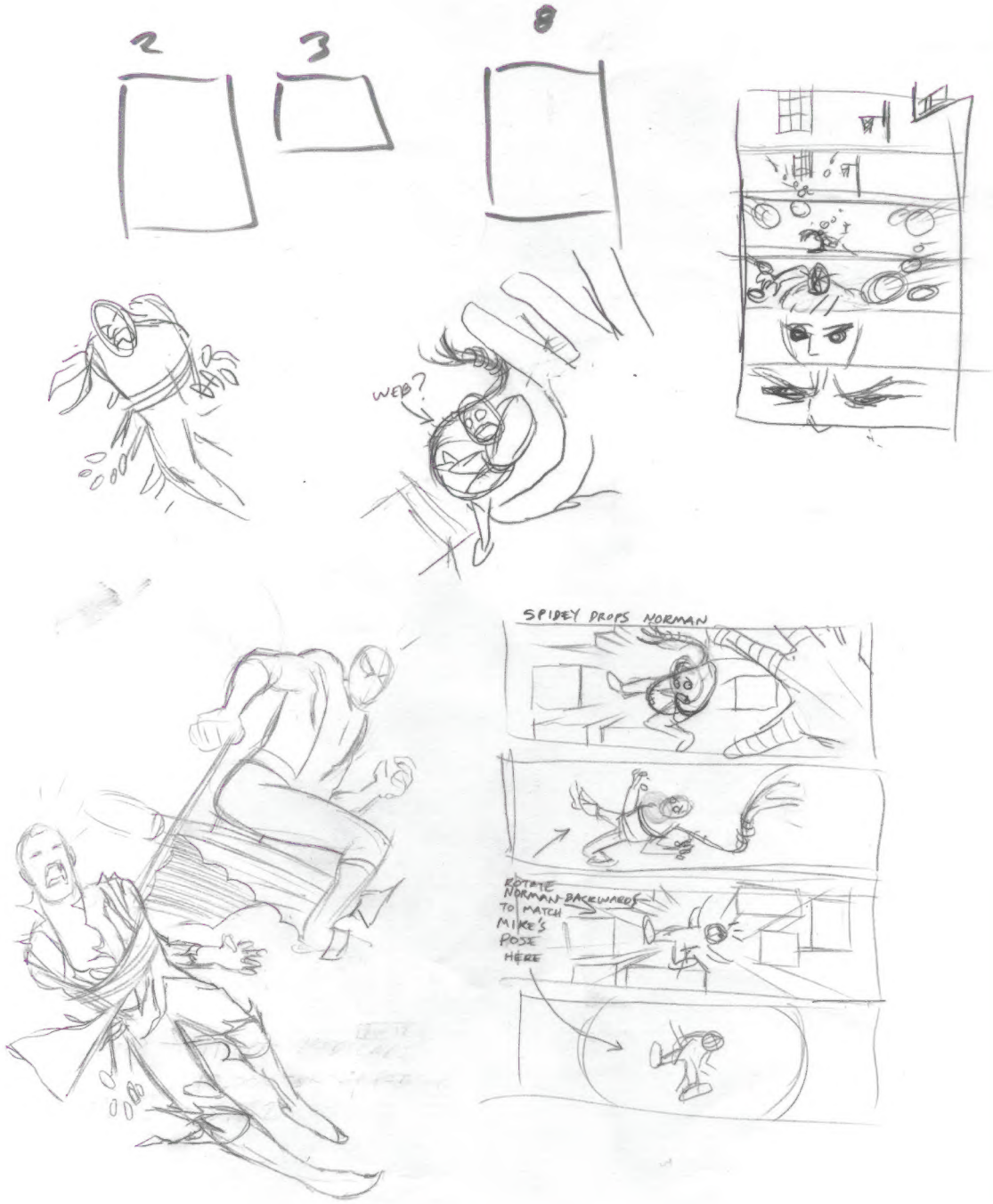


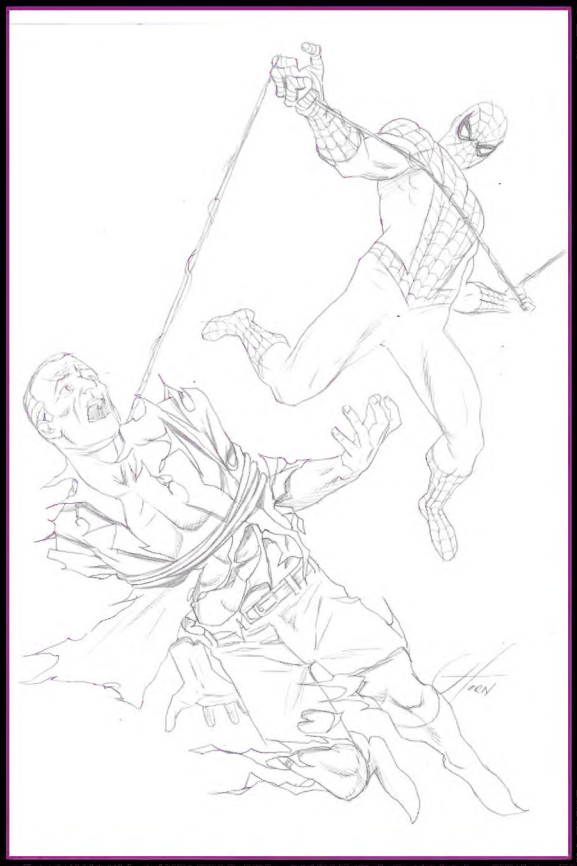
CHARACTER SKETCHES BY
CHRIS BACHALO

DARK AVENGERS #11-12 COVER SKETCHES & INKS BY
MIKE DEODATO JR.

DARK AVENGERS #11-12 **"NORMAN'S DREAM" LAYOUT BY**
GREG HORN

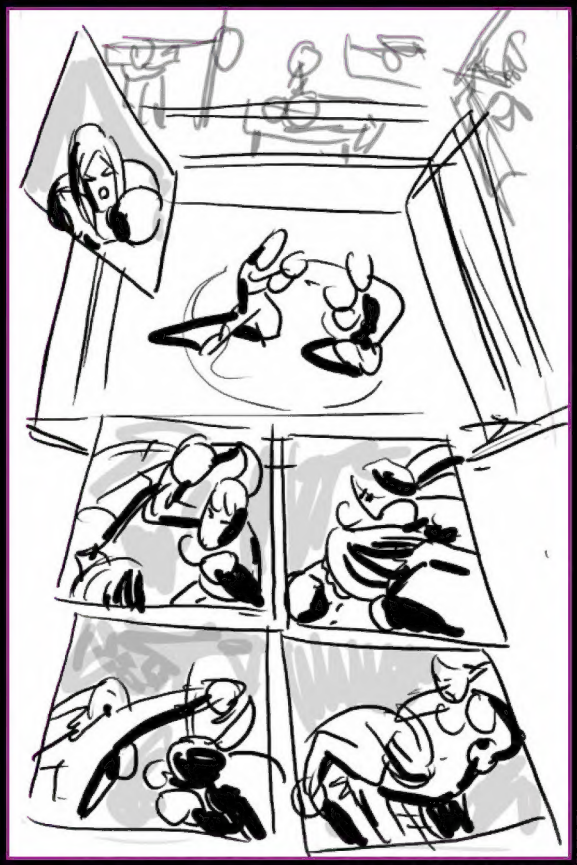



2
3
8
WEB?
SPIDEY DROPS NORMAN
ROTATE NORMAN BACKWARDS TO MATCH MIKE'S POSE HERE



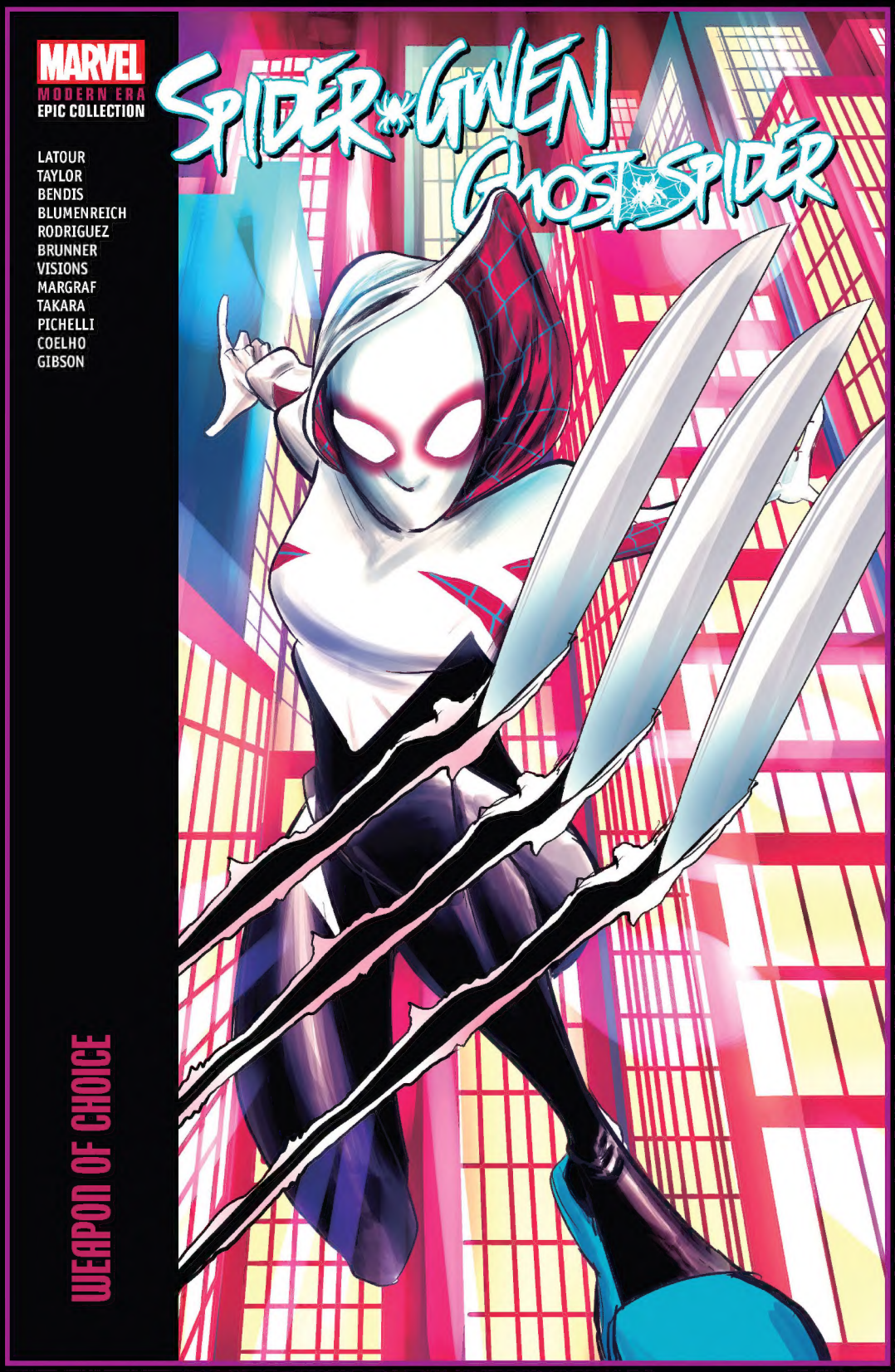
DARK AVENGERS #12 "NORMAN'S DREAM" SKETCH BY
GREG HORN

WIZARD #209 COVER BY
DANIEL ACUÑA



DARK AVENGERS #11 PAGE 1 LAYOUT SKETCH & INKS BY
MIKE DEODATO JR.

MODERN ERA EPIC COLLECTIONS



NEXT: SPIDER-GWEN: GHOST-SPIDER — WEAPON OF CHOICE

DARK AVENGERS ASSEMBLE!

Norman Osborn, the former Green Goblin, has been awarded the Avengers franchise — and he's assembling a terrifying team in his own image! Transforming well-known villains into twisted versions of Hawkeye, Spider-Man, Wolverine and Ms. Marvel — and recruiting heavy hitters like Ares and the Sentry — Norman suits up as the armored Iron Patriot! But can the Dark Avengers prevail against Morgan Le Fay and the Beyonder? And when Osborn targets mutantkind as a threat, who will join his Dark X-Men?! As Marvel Boy discovers just how sinister a gang he's signed up for and the Sentry's secrets are finally revealed, Osborn goes too far — and the Siege of Asgard may put an end to all his schemes!

The Modern Era Epic Collections feature the best characters and stories from Marvel's modern age. Volumes are not published in chronological order — so start your collection today with this edition, and look inside for a complete list of available and upcoming releases!

VOL. 1
2009-2010

DARK AVENGERS (2009) #1-16 & ANNUAL #1, DARK AVENGERS/UNCANNY X-MEN: UTOPIA, UNCANNY X-MEN (1981) #513-514 and DARK AVENGERS/UNCANNY X-MEN: EXODUS